■ News / A4

P200M worth of property lost in Boracay fire

■ Magazine / Q5

Joy Virata: From shy housewife to respected actress

■ News / A2

GMA exhorts Fil-Ams to earn dollars abroad but retire in RP

JOB Market

Fire up your passion with the job that's right for you

Tanong ng Bayan **/ A16**

Singil sa kuryente, dapat bang taasan?

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An hour's work for soldiers adds up to P899,000 for kids

By Fe Zamora

ALL IT took was an hour of their time.

Some 16,000 personnel of the Philippine Air Force set aside their wages equivalent to one hour's work and, all together, they collected P899,295.15 for Children's Hour Foundation projects for underprivileged children.

AN HOUR'S/ A18

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER Sunday
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

No fireworks, just free spa, free golf at Trump wedding

PALM BEACH, Florida—About 400 of Donald Trump's closest friends began arriving at this island playground of the rich and famous on the eve of his Saturday wedding.

NO FIREWORKS/ A6

IKAKASAL NA SYA! WALANG IFA-'FIRE' NGAYON!

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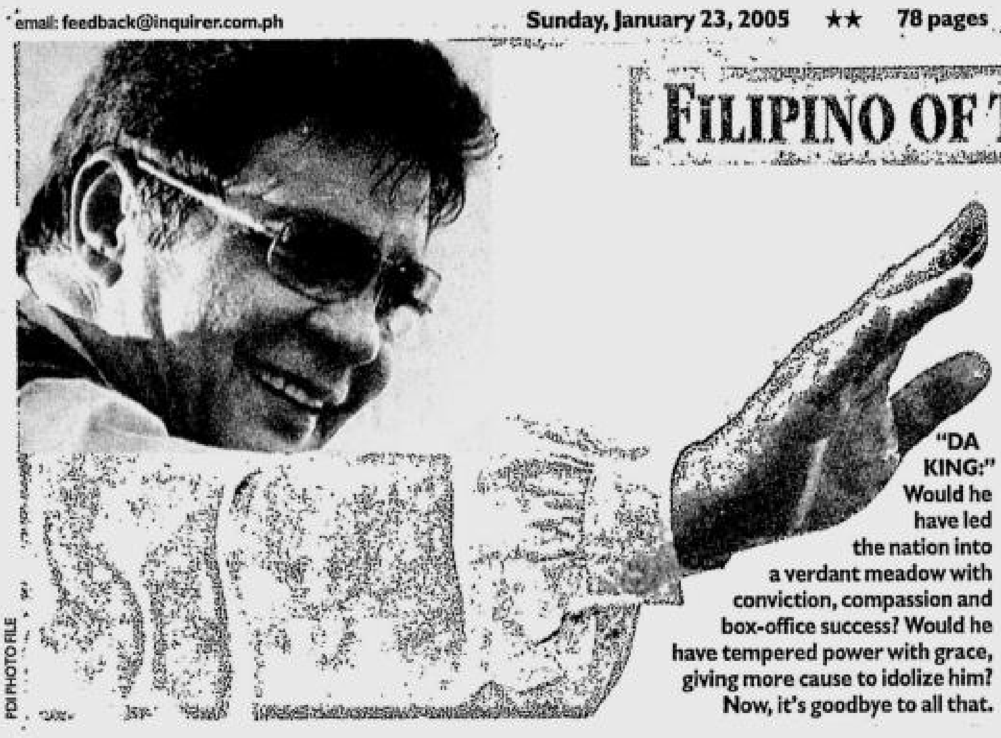

PDI PHOTO FILE

"DA KING:" Would he have led the nation into a verdant meadow with conviction, compassion and box-office success? Would he have tempered power with grace, giving more cause to idolize him? Now, it's goodbye to all that.

FILIPINO OF THE YEAR 2004

FERNANDO POE JR.

Mourning an unfulfilled dream

Editor's Note:
THE PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER for the past 14 years has annually honored a living Filipino who has made the most positive impact on the life of the nation. Right there, we had a problem. The editors' choice—Fernando Poe Jr.—lived only until Dec. 14, 2004. There was no question about his impact. But we can never know now if it

EDITOR'S NOTE/ A18

AROUND this time last year Fernando Poe Jr. heeded the summons to be brave and did what no Filipino had done in quite a while. He gave the common folk hope.

"The dawn of a better life is coming," he had said to those who would listen. From the inner cities where the barely fed and barely heard struggled through one blighted day after another, to distant towns where the unread tilled the soil or farmed the sea at crack of light, to ancient hills where they worshipped other gods yet idolized him, he bade his followers—in measured but familiar lyrics—never to give up on their dreams.

MOURNING/ A18

'Get the big-time loggers'

Gov't told to go after big fish, not just local small fry

By Michael Lim Ubac, Juliet Labog-Javellana and Delfin Mallari Jr.

MALACAÑANG'S Anti-Illegal Logging Task Force yesterday drew, not praise, but flak for supposedly going only after the small fry.

Sen. Jamby Madrigal, who is pushing for a 30-year total ban on commercial logging, said she was not belittling the efforts of the task force leaders, reforestation czar Victor Corpus and Environment Secretary Michael Defensor.

"But I do hope they will look beyond the local politicos and go after the big-time loggers. These are the people who hide behind the so-called forestry agreements and other forest land use special permits issued by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources," she said.

Defensor announced on Friday that the campaign against illegal logging had bagged at least three mayors from Quezon, Agusan del Sur and Negros Occidental, a former representative of Quezon, and a barangay captain—all belonging to the ruling Lakas-CMD. He said they had been or would be charged with illegal logging.

But even the militant fisherfolk group Pamalakaya was unimpressed.

"How about the big logging clients of Malacañang in Aurora and Quezon? Are they not responsible for the destruction of the environment and the loss of human lives and livelihood?" Pamalakaya information officer Gerry Albert Corpuz said in a statement.

Corpuz said the task force had spared the six big logging corporations operating in Quezon and Aurora, whose permits were approved starting in 2001, the beginning of President Macapagal-Arroyo's incumbency.

He identified the six as Green Circles Corp. (30,000 hectares), International Hardwood and Veneer Corp. (13,527 ha) and Timberland Forest Products (34,660 ha), all in Quezon, and Industries Development Corp. (48,777 ha), RCC Timber Co. (23,140 ha) and Top Lite Corp. (8,630 ha), all in Aurora.

But Malacañang said the task force would spare no one.

"The anti-illegal logging campaign is a strategic environmental program that will recognize no sacred cows," Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye said in

GET/ A6

DELFIN MALLARI/PDI SOUTHERN LUZON BUREAU

GRANDEST of 11 stone bridges in Tayabas, Quezon built during the Spanish era is the Malagonlong Bridge. Measuring 445 feet long, it is made of adobe and limestone with molasses and eggs for binders. It has been declared a historical site with plans to turn it into a park with a fine dining restaurant atop the bridge.

Bridge at Banahaw's foot stands test of time

By Delfin T. Mallari Jr.
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

TAYABAS, Quezon—This rustic town at the foot of Mt. Banahaw has more than just its *budin*, a mouth-watering local version of the cassava cake, or the fiery *lambanog*, a coconut-based wine, to be proud of.

Lying 150 km southeast of Manila virtually in the shadow of the mystical mountain, Tayabas boasts of other unique cultural legacies—11 of the very few stone bridges built centuries ago that have survived to this day and remain one of the country's vanishing links to its Spanish past.

The grandest of the Tayabas bridges, called Tulay Malagonlong, is being turned into a historical park. It was built out of a mixture of adobe blocks—and molasses and eggs.

The 10 others still serve the motoring public, still grumbling under the weight of passing vehicles despite two world wars, hundreds of typhoons and storms, and earthquakes.

Declared a historical site, the 136-meter adobe bridge of Malagonlong in Barangay Mateuna, 2 km southeast of Tayabas poblacion, has not been in

BRIDGE/ A6

Islamic cleric urges all Muslims to reject terrorism

By Allan Nawal
PDI Mindanao Bureau

MECCA, Saudi Arabia—One of Saudi Arabia's most influential clerics urged Muslims to eschew terrorism, saying attacks on the innocent were not in accordance with the teachings of Islam.

"Islam is a religion of moderation. Extremism has no place in Islam," Sheikh Abdurahman Al-Sudais of the Masjid'l Haram (Grand Mosque) said in a sermon delivered for Friday's Eid'l Adha (feast of sacrifice).

He called on followers of Islam to exert all efforts to protect non-Muslims.

Hundreds of thousands of people, from among some 2.5 million Muslims performing the haj pilgrimage in the kingdom, attended the Eid'l Adha prayers.

Al-Sudais' call came in the wake of stepped up attacks by militant Muslims in troubled areas of the Middle East. Some of the attacks have occurred in Saudi Arabia, blamed on militants linked to the al-Qaida network, which had declared the pro-US Saudi rulers apostates.

In the latest incident in Iraq, a suicide car bomb exploded at a Shi'ite wedding party in a town south of Baghdad late on Friday, killing at least 11 people and wounding 27, doctors said.

There has been a surge in attacks on Shi'ites as Iraq's January elections approach. Earlier on Friday, a suicide car bomber killed 14 Shi'ite worshippers as they left a Baghdad mosque.

Al-Sudais said Muslim scholars should

ISLAMIC/ A6

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
SUNDAY, JANUARY 23, 2005

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Mindanao will experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and isolated thunderstorms. The rest of the country will be partly cloudy to cloudy with isolated rainshowers.
SOURCE: PAGASA

COMPILED BY: CHONA GALANG, PDI RESEARCH/01/23/05

Second FRONT PAGE

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Metro Manila	Partly Cloudy	Iloilo/Bacolod	Partly Cloudy
Baguio	Partly Cloudy	Roxas	Partly Cloudy
Tuguegarao	Partly Cloudy	Cebu	Cloudy with Rains
Laoag	Partly Cloudy	Tacloban	Partly Cloudy
Clark Zone	Partly Cloudy	Gen. Santos	Cloudy with Rains
Tagaytay	Partly Cloudy	Zamboanga	Cloudy with Rains
Legazpi	Partly Cloudy	Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with Rains
Calapan	Partly Cloudy	Davao	Cloudy with Rains

Party-list group sacks own nominee

By Volt Contreras

EVEN the righteous ranks of non-traditional politicians can be wracked by power struggles.

A faction within the urban poor party-list group, Alagad, announced yesterday that it had ousted the party's current House nominee, Rep. Rodante Marcoleta, for "loss of trust and confidence."

But Marcoleta has refused to step down, even well after the Jan. 7 deadline for him to yield the post to Alagad founding president, Diogenes Osabel, the group said in a statement it released during a "general assembly" yesterday at Barangay Holy Spirit in Quezon City.

At about the same time, Marcoleta was also presiding over a general assembly of his own faction of 365 members at the University of the Philippines Theater in Diliman, also in Quezon City.

Reached by phone, Marcoleta said he did not recognize the actions of the Osabel faction as Osabel "had already resigned" as party president last Nov. 6 and that this had been accepted by 12 members of the 21-member executive committee.

"When he found out it [his resignation] was accepted, he turned around and claimed that '*nabigla lang ako*' (It was a knee-jerk reaction), so he regrouped his eight hand-picked members of the execom and passed a bogus resolution allegedly trying to oust me," said Marcoleta.

Marcoleta claimed that Speaker Jose de Venecia would not honor the opposing camp's standing request to administer the oath of office to Osabel, for lack of a legal basis for Marcoleta's ouster.

The rift has become a test case for the country's six-year-old party-list system.

As Osabel himself said, it is "unprecedented" for a party-list group to kick out a defiant nominee in the middle of a term.

"The law is silent about a nominee getting ousted by his own party," Osabel said in an interview.

He said the law considered only "death, resignation and incapacity" as grounds for a nominee's replacement.

Each party-list group that successfully won two percent of the votes is entitled to appoint up to five nominees but can only occupy a maximum of three seats. Some groups rotate the seats among different nominees.

According to Alagad secretary general Henry Asistin, the Barangay Holy Spirit general assembly meeting yesterday "unanimously ratified" the ouster order against Marcoleta which the executive committee handed down on Dec. 22, 2004. Osabel and some 230 party members attended the assembly.

According to the statement, the party's execom has asked De Venecia to administer the oath of office to Osabel, who served as Alagad nominee from 1998 to 2001, when the group won a House seat for the first time.

'Retire in RP where dollars go a long way'

By Juliet Labog-Javellana

LIVE and earn abroad but retire in the Philippines.

President Macapagal-Arroyo made this call to millions of Filipinos abroad whom she thanked for their continued love of country and family.

"Retire in the Philippines—in a place of your choice and in the company of people you love. This is still the best place to spend the twilight of your years," Ms Arroyo said in a speech delivered at the 3rd Global Networking Pinoy party in Cebu City on Friday night.

The gathering of overseas Filipinos was organized and attended by the likes of Loida Nicolas-Lewis, heiress the a multimillion-dollar retail empire of her late husband in the United States, Alex Exclamado and Rodel Rodis, who are pillars of the National Federation of Filipino-American Associations.

Ms Arroyo said that after earning a living and establishing themselves and their families in their host countries, Filipino migrants could look forward to retirement in their homeland.

"Your money has more value here. Health care is both excellent and affordable. Choose the most rustic place and invest now," she said.

The President said that returning to the Philippines was one of four things overseas Filipinos could do to help their motherland.

She counted the ways after overseas Filipino leaders passed a resolution asking how they could help the country.

Ms Arroyo also said Filipinos abroad should deposit their dollars in Philippine banks.

She noted Lewis' report that many Fil-Ams were already helping through the "$1,000 instrument" accounts maintained in Philippine banks.

"You can help a lot if you deposit your dollars in our banks because the interest it earns abroad would also earn here at home where your money is best needed," she said.

Poe 40th day rites somber

THE OBSERVANCE of the 40th day of mourning yesterday for recently deceased movie idol Fernando Poe Jr. was a markedly solemn affair in contrast to the frenzy that attended his wake.

About 1,000 fans of Poe, who lost his presidential bid in the May 2004 elections, gathered at his tomb at the North Cemetery in Manila to commemorate the 40th day of his death on Dec. 14, 2004.

As the gospel hymn, "*Hindi Kita Malilimutan* (I Shall Never Forget You)," was played, elderly women and brawny men bowed their heads in prayer for the movie actor. Teenagers stayed glued to their places, silently observing the ceremonies.

Even the 4-km-long procession to the Sto. Domingo Church was somber, a far cry from Poe's weeklong wake and funeral where fans pushed and shoved for a glimpse of their idol's remains.

"Let us shout the name FPJ to remind us that he is now with the Lord," Fr. Sonny Ramirez exhorted the crowd just before the procession began.

About two dozen policemen stood watch along A. Bonifacio St., directing the flow of traffic and ensuring that Poe's fans could proceed without incident to the Sto. Domingo Church.

Ramirez told the crowd to carry lighted candles to symbolize the "flame of justice and love."

"People who live in darkness have nowhere to go," Ramirez said.

Poe, dubbed "Da King" of Philippine movies, died even before the electoral tribunal could formally begin hearing his electoral protest against President Macapagal-Arroyo, who he claimed had cheated him of victory.

Poe's followers have raised a giant tarpaulin poster over the Poe mausoleum, proclaiming the actor as the "genuine President" of the country.

Early yesterday, Susan Roces, Poe's widow, offered flowers and prayers at her husband's tomb, joining some 100 followers who had been holding vigil since Friday night.

Roces told reporters that she was not joining politics but would "continue the protest" filed by her husband.

Fe Zamora

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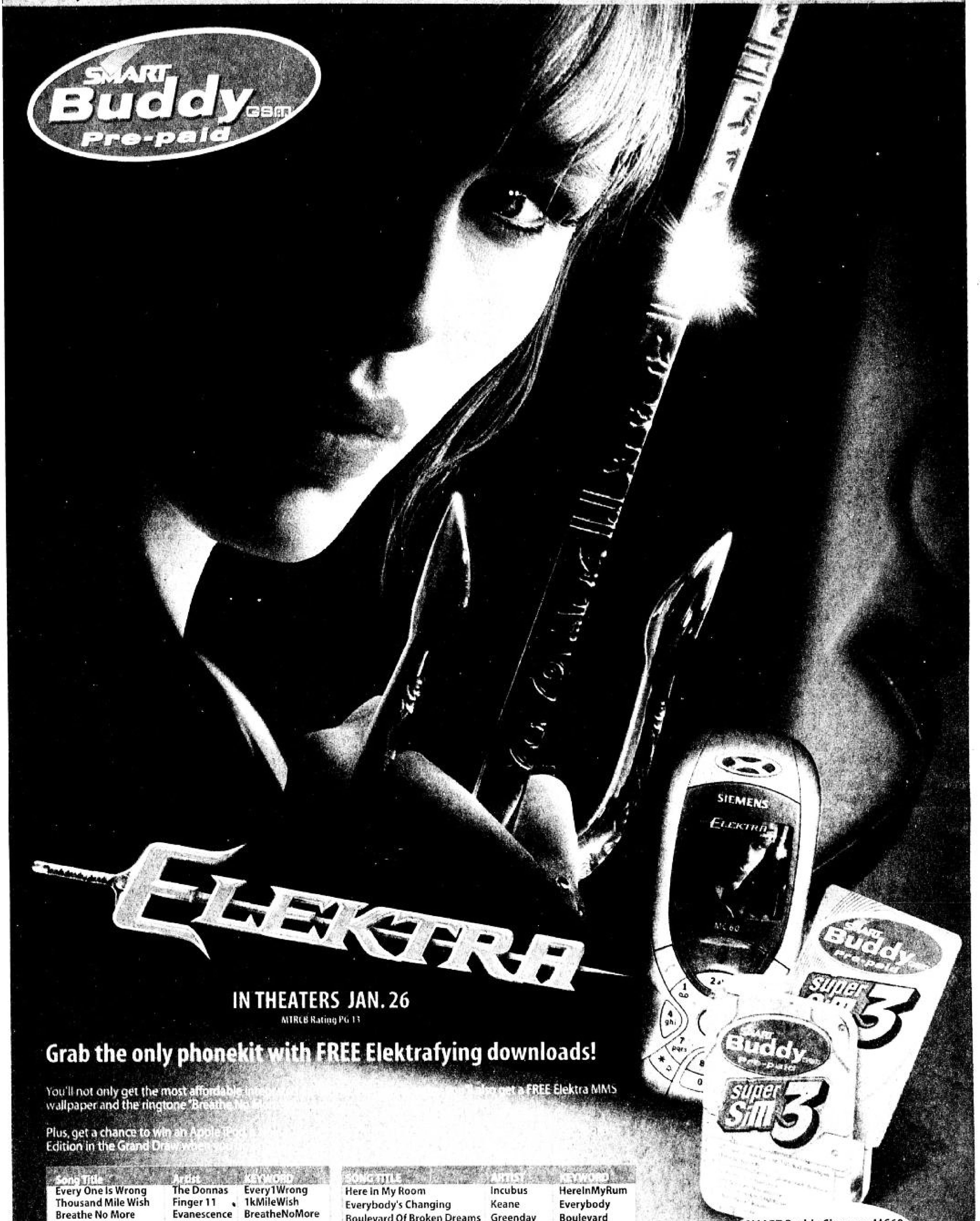

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Song Title	Artist	KEYWORD
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Thousand Mile Wish	Finger 11	1kMileWish
Breathe No More	Evanescence	BreatheNoMore
Save Me	Alter Bridge	SaveMe
Megalomaniac	Incubus	Megalomaniac
Ragdoll	Maroon 5	Ragdoll
Change The World	P.O.D.	ChangeDWorld

SONG TITLE	ARTIST	KEYWORD
Here In My Room	Incubus	HereInMyRum
Everybody's Changing	Keane	Everybody
Boulevard Of Broken Dreams	Greenday	Boulevard
Breaking The Habit	Linkin Park	BreakinDHabit
Harder To Breathe	Maroon 5	Hard2Breathe
Unaffected	Hoobastank	Unaffected

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P200M lost in fire; Boracay in darkness

By Recto I. Vidal, Ma. Diosa Labiste and Nestor P. Burgos Jr.
PDI Visayas Bureau

KALIBO, Aklan—At least P200 million worth of property went up in smoke after a four-hour fire razed at least 129 stalls at the flea market in the premier island-resort of Boracay Friday night, police and fire officials said.

The world-renowned resort has been plunged into darkness after the power supply to the island was cut off when the fire gutted power and telephone lines in the flea market area. As of yesterday, power had not been restored.

President Macapagal-Arroyo, who was in Iloilo yesterday, flew by helicopter to Boracay to assess the extent of the damage to the island-resort and see what the government could do to help the fire victims.

The President was accompanied by Tourism Secretary Joseph "Ace" Durano and other officials. From Calinog town in Iloilo, Ms Arroyo proceeded to the area destroyed by the fire and talked to some resort owners and local officials led by Aklan Gov. Carlito Marquez.

Marquez said it was the worst fire to hit the island since it started drawing hordes of domestic and foreign tourists in the 1970s.

Resort owners said hotels and beach bungalows were crammed with thousands of foreign tourists because of an influx of people diverted from tsunami-hit areas in Asia.

The President announced that the tourism department would help Boracaynons build a new "world-class" market.

In an interview, Durano downplayed the impact of the fire on the tourism industry five days after the deadly rampage by a policeman during the Ati-atihan festival in Kalibo town which attracts foreign tourists.

Durano said only 50 of the total 3,000 rooms of the island's resorts were affected by the fire.

"Despite this unfortunate and rare incident, Boracay is safe," he told the INQUIRER in a phone interview.

Witnesses said the blaze started at about 6:30 p.m. at KC Footwear, a stall which sells rubber sandals and slippers in the flea market at Sitio Manggayad, Barangay Manoc-manoc.

Initial reports said the fire was caused by an unattended candle, which came into contact with highly combustible rubber materials at the shop.

Marquez said that due to strong winds, the fire immediately spread to souvenir shops, restaurants, dive shops and grocery stores which were mostly made of light materials.

"There should be strict enforcement of the zoning ordinance so that incidents such as this will not happen again," he said, noting that the stalls were built close to each other.

In addition, the passageways were too narrow to accommodate fire trucks.

The fire also damaged three big resorts, Casa Pilar, Paradise Resort and Mona Liza Resort, and the Aqualife dive shop. Mona Liza was completely razed to the ground while portions of Casa Pilar and Paradise resorts were damaged. *With reports from Leila B. Salaverria and Jerome Aning*

'Rumors meant to sow dissent in AFP'

A RANKING officer yesterday confirmed that unidentified groups were spreading rumors of discontent in the ranks in an apparent bid to sow dissension in the military and destabilize the government.

The rumors surfaced just as the Armed Forces of the Philippines is undergoing a major reorganization.

"The truth is that there are unidentified threat groups which have taken advantage of the ongoing reorganization being undertaken in the AFP," said Lt. Gen. Generoso Senga, chief of the Philippine Army, in a statement yesterday.

The Army chief said these groups were responsible for disseminating rumors of discontent among the rank-and-file to create division and dissension in the military organization.

Senga, however, dismissed the rumors, saying the army was "solid and united" behind the chain of command and duly constituted authority.

No member of the Philippine Army will participate in any move to destabilize the government, he said.

Earlier, Commodore Rex Robles (ret.) said that some senior and junior officers in the AFP were disgruntled over the "politicization" of the military.

Robles said these officers did not pose a threat but a withdrawal of their support for the government would "not be far-fetched."

Alcuin Papa

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GSX 2.0 GAS A/T	847,000	100,000	62,250	42,755	34,061	24,332	19,743	17,259	15,839
GLX 1.8 GAS A/T	807,000	90,000	59,750	40,889	32,577	23,272	18,883	16,506	15,148
GL 1.8 GAS M/T	698,000	80,000	51,500	34,733	27,681	19,775	16,046	14,021	12,868
DLX 1.8 GAS M/T (12.07%)	663,000	80,000	48,583	32,557	25,950	18,538	15,042	13,143	12,061
DLX 1.8 GAS M/T (50%)	663,000	331,500	27,625	18,417	13,813	9,517	7,691	6,683	6,114
DLX 2.4 DSL M/T	690,000	80,000	52,349	36,083	28,726	20,521	16,651	14,566	13,368

RAV4 FINANCING SCHEMES

VARIANT	SRP	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
4x4 A/T	1,268,000	100,000	103,579	71,395	56,801	40,577	32,925	28,821	26,450
4x2 SV M/T	1,048,000	100,000	83,733	57,715	45,921	32,805	26,618	23,299	21,382

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Bangon takes up cudgels for mayor

By Vincent Cabreza
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

BAGUIO CITY—General Nakar Mayor Hernando Avellaneda is now the subject of political harassment, according to Bangon Pilipinas, the nationwide party of former presidential candidate Bro. Eddie Villanueva.

Bangon deputy director general Richard Cucio yesterday told the INQUIRER that the party would send lawyers to vouch for Avellaneda and the assistance he had extended to its efforts to revive certain areas in the storm-ravaged town.

Cucio said the mayor had refused to authorize the government "to take control" of the logs that had washed down to the town from illegal logging sites on the Sierra Madre mountains when successive storms struck Aurora and Quezon last year.

Fighting over logs

He said Avellaneda wanted to make sure that only General Nakar residents would benefit from the logs—the supposed reason why he was now "a political target."

Cucio said a background probe conducted by Bangon had produced positive comments on Avellaneda.

"We have asked around, and people told us that from the very start, the mayor was never involved in illegal logging. In fact, he fought it," Cucio said.

According to Cucio, Avellaneda ordered police to arrest two businessmen suspected of financing illegal logging in his town three weeks ago, in front of environmentalists and civic volunteers who were helping restore order in the town.

Not to attack GMA

"I don't understand why the government is attacking the mayor of a town that is hard-up," Cucio said. "They should be encouraging him because he is always accessible to his people."

Cucio also said Bangon was defending Avellaneda because it was "in a position to reveal the truth" about the mayor, and not because it wanted to attack President Macapagal-Arroyo.

He said Bangon coordinator Arnel Sol, a pastor who grew up in General Nakar, had introduced Avellaneda to the party's "Operation Compassion" because of the mayor's track record.

"[Avellaneda] is not a member of Bangon, and he does not even attend regular Mass, and he did not run under our party although we supported his candidacy," Cucio said.

Rare

In a statement e-mailed to the INQUIRER in Lucena City, Cucio said: "Good persons like [Avellaneda] are rare in the public service, and we are disgusted by Secretary Michael Defensor's allegations." *With a report from Delfin T. Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

'Get the big-time loggers, not small fry'

From page A1

a statement.

"We have seen the scourge of disaster and the anguish inflicted upon our people. We will enforce our laws resolutely and we will not stop until those responsible are brought to justice," he said.

'He's a liar'

Among those charged were Mayor Hernando Avellaneda of General Nakar in Quezon, whose "illegal logging operations" were blamed for the disaster that killed 1,000 people in the province last month.

Defensor said around P12 million worth of logs seized in Mauban, Quezon, were from Avellaneda's operations in General Nakar.

But in a phone interview with the INQUIRER, Avellaneda swore that he had never been involved in the crime.

"God knows that I'm not an illegal logger or a financier of illegal logging activities," he said. "The whole town of General Nakar can attest to that. What Defensor has just filed in court are all malicious lies. He's a liar."

Avellaneda accused Defensor of using his name and his family's reputation to cover up the "pathetic failure" of the DENR in its fight against rampant logging in the Sierra Madre mountain range.

He said he was now consulting his lawyers on what legal steps to take in order to clear his name.

'Mayor Gapos'

Defensor had also said Avellaneda's brothers, Ricardo and Ronnie, and Barangay Captain David Prudente were included in the charges as his cohorts in illegal logging operations.

But Avellaneda, who has earned the moniker "Mayor Gapos" for his unorthodox methods in fighting crime in his town, said: "They want me, my brothers and my officials as their scapegoats for the pathetic failure of the DENR to combat destructive logging activities. Now that nature is fighting back and has already killed thousands of people, Defensor and company badly need someone to blame.

"How can I finance illegal logging activities when I don't even have the money to build a house of my own? I'm still renting my place."

Avellaneda said his brothers were innocent of the charge.

Ricardo is his executive assistant in the municipal government and Ronnie is a farmer in Barangay Magsaysay, he said.

Avellaneda also defended Prudente, captain of Barangay Magsaysay, from the illegal logging charge: "How can that be? Prudente is the custodian of all illegally cut logs that were confiscated by the local government and the DENR. He has in his possession all the corresponding government documents that were issued to him."

Afraid 'to go up'

Madrigal aired the suspicion that the task force was afraid to "go-up" to the national officials and wealthy businessmen supposedly involved in illegal logging, and had failed to go after big-time private loggers in the Sierra Madre.

She also called for an airtight case: "Catching the loggers is one thing. Ensuring that they are placed behind bars is another. Unless we eradicate the alleged culture of corruption in the halls of the DENR and the judicial system, we may not be able to attain the desired ends of justice."

The senator raised the need for a "paradigm shift" in how the government deals with the problem of deforestation.

"The strict enforcement of laws is only one part of the solution," she said. "We must have a national policy favoring the preservation and protection of our remaining natural forests. Unfortunately, until now the present leadership of the DENR is more inclined to continuing this policy of resource extraction."

Madrigal challenged the DENR to impose a total log ban.

"There is an urgent need to cancel all forest land use agreements, stop the conversion of our forest lands to alienable and disposable lands and protect the ancestral domains of our indigenous peoples in forest lands," she said.

Turning the tables

Avellaneda said he was glad that the case had been filed in court. "I can now turn the tables on them," he said.

He disclosed to the INQUIRER that the DENR had yet to account for almost 300,000 feet of illegal logs that were confiscated in the department-initiated illegal logging drive along the Agus river almost two years ago.

"Where are those logs now?" he said, adding that the Sangguniang Panlalawigan had been pestering the DENR on the issue, to no avail.

Avellaneda also said: "Who gave permission to those big-time logging concessionaires? Who's manning the highways and the seas, which are being used as transport channels for the illegally cut logs? It's the national government and not the local officials."

The mayor served as a Quezon board member from 2001 to 2004. He also served as mayor of General Nakar from 1992 to 2001 while a member of Lakas.

Top 10 list

The DENR has forwarded to the Department of Justice the "top 10 illegal logging cases filed" recently.

Based on the number of illegal logs seized, it named the following as top illegal loggers: 1) Rodrigo Pupos of Region 10, P2.3 million; 2) Roland Sebiano, Virgilio Duterte, William Paredes, Loreto Emactao and Eliseo Nermal, Region 11, P1.2 million; 3) Ester de Guzman, Region 3, P1.1 million; 4) Oscar Soro, Region 3, P1 million; 5) Maj. Dencio Antonio Jr., Region 12, P759,000; 6) Jose Colle, Region 5, P665,000; 7) Carlito Tiu, Region 7, P610,000; 8) Alfredo Marquez and Dante Medina, Region 4-A, P463,000; 9) Ramon Co, Region 8, P458,000; and 10) Aristotle Abella, Ronie Cainoy, Nestor Clamor, Pelectrino Latiban, Jolito Cadayog, Region 11, P284,000.

Small amounts

Explaining the small amounts, Defensor said these represented the actual number of logs seized in one raid. He said some of the amounts represented the logs cut every day in the areas.

He also said P50 million worth of logs had been seized since the President ordered a crackdown on illegal loggers after last year's storm-triggered disaster in Quezon and Aurora.

Islamic cleric . . .

From page A1

help preach the real Islam to counter what he said was a distorted interpretation of the religion by some people.

"Islam is a religion of peace but some people are using misguided interpretations of Islam to justify (attacks on perceived enemies)," Al-Sudais said.

He said scholars might have to take some of the blame for the "little success" of distorted ideas because they had done little to counter their spread.

"We are now suffering from this dangerous phenomenon. This phenomenon has become widespread that Muslim scholars must hold on to the real Islam," Al-Sudais said.

'Repulsive hearsays'

Earlier, the Grand Mufti of Saudi Arabia urged scholars to use all available materials to teach the correct form of Islam.

Sheik Abdul Aziz Al-Asheik told participants at an international inter-culture conference, which was hosted by the World Muslim League (WML), that Muslims would not have difficulty in establishing dialogues with other sectors because materials on Islam were widely available.

"Many non-Muslims know very little or nothing about Islam and depend on hearsays, which are repulsive and distorted," Al-Asheikh said.

He said people who hated Islam were claiming that the religion encouraged terrorism and extremism, and appeared to be winning in some aspects because some people were starting to think that what they were being told about Islam was the truth.

Exposing Islam's enemies

"It is only through constructive dialogue, led by people who understand Islam and its teachings, that the enemies of Islam could be exposed and their lies refuted," Al-Asheik said.

Al-Sudais said the branding of followers of other faiths as infidels and attempts to incite Muslims to rise against their leaders had caused instability not only in the region but in other areas of the globe, as well.

"Theirs is a delinquent and void interpretation of Islam based on ignorance," he said.

Islam does not mean killing non-Muslims, Al-Sudais said.

"It does not mean shedding blood and terrorism, such as killing people (by planting bombs) to send their body parts flying."

Bombings in Riyadh

Saudi Arabia has not been spared from terror attacks.

Bombings have scarred Riyadh, the country's capital, and militants identified with the al-Qaida network have attacked facilities manned by foreigners.

In the wake of the violence, Saudi security forces have launched a manhunt for Saudi dissident Saad Al-Faqeeh, allegedly a ranking lieutenant of Osama Bin Laden.

No fireworks, just free spa, free golf in Trump wedding

From page A1

All were invited by the real estate mogul/reality TV star to take advantage of free golf at the Trump International course and to enjoy spa services at Mar-a-Lago, Trump's estate.

Trump and Slovenian model Melania Knauss had tried to keep many details about their wedding quiet, saying they wanted their guests to be surprised. But one surprise has already been spoiled: The town council nixed the couple's request for a fireworks display at the reception.

Fireworks rejected

Council members unanimously rejected the last-minute bid for the fireworks because the nine-minute show was planned on the grounds of Mar-a-Lago, instead of from a barge on the Intracoastal Waterway. Members also were dismayed that a special meeting on the matter was convened so hastily.

"If this were John Smith or Mary Jones, I don't believe this council would be called into session with barely 24 hours notice," Councilman Bill Brooks said.

The wedding between Trump, 58, and Knauss, 34, comes just two days after the premiere of the third season of "The Apprentice." Trump said he fielded offers to move the TV cameras from his boardroom to his ballroom, but decided against it.

"The last marriage that was televised was Prince Charles and Lady Di, and that didn't work out too well," he said this week.

Trump and his staff insisted they were trying to keep the wedding under wraps. But some details had been purposely leaked.

No outshining the bride

Knauss stepped out in public in her wedding gown, a voluminous strapless haute couture number by Christian Dior, on the cover of Vogue magazine this week. The dress has 300 feet of white satin, a 13-foot train and took 550 hours to embroider.

"This is one wedding where no one can outshine the bride so there is no fear of what guests should and shouldn't wear," said Sami Alpark, the owner of a Worth Avenue boutique that's outfitting 40 women for the event. "All of our customers want to go all out wearing one-of-a-kind pieces. They want the glamour, the glitz, the over-the-top pieces."

He said the gowns he's selling range from $5,000 to $26,000; many are beaded and look as though they could be on the red carpet at the Academy Awards.

"The competition is on for the most spectacular, the most fabulous," Alpark said.

Knauss reportedly wanted a dress that would stand out against Mar-a-Lago's ornate Louis XIV style ballroom and fit in with her theme: white, gold and diamonds.

Simple but elegant

The ballroom features 17 custom crystal chandeliers, 24-karat gold-leaf moldings and a marble floor. Trump opened the venue on his 18-acre estate overlooking the Atlantic Ocean and the Intracoastal Waterway at a New Year's Eve gala featuring singer Vanessa Williams.

"Everything will be very simple and very elegant in keeping with Melania's wishes and the look of the grand ballroom," said Mar-a-Lago catering and special events director Pat Saylor.

The wedding will be the third for Trump and the first for Knauss, who opted to have a ceremony off the estate at the Episcopal Church of Bethesda-by-the-Sea.

A few onlookers and a horde of media already had gathered outside the church by Friday afternoon, when Trump and Knauss were expected to arrive for a rehearsal.

A fan

"I just love his show and thought it would be cool if we could see him—and Melania, of course," said 13-year-old Melody Nelson who was holding a disposable camera in hopes of snapping the couple's picture. "It's, like, the biggest wedding I've ever heard of." *AP*

Bridge at Banahaw's foot stands test of time

From page A1

use since a year ago with the construction of a modern concrete bridge.

"We envision Malagonlong bridge as a historical park complete with Spanish lampposts," Tayabas Mayor Severina Nadres told the INQUIRER.

Dinner atop a bridge

"We're working closely with the NHI [National Historical Institute] to preserve its original design and features."

The local government plans to put up a fine dining restaurant atop the bridge.

"Probably, it will be the only park and restaurant in the country that will be nestled atop a Spanish-built bridge," boasted Tayabas tourism officer Gener Abordo.

When the new concrete bridge was being conceptualized as a component of the Tayabas-Sampaloc-Mauban-Lucban circumferential road, the preservation of Malagonlong bridge "was foremost in our minds," Rep. Rafael Nantes said.

"The bridge has a great part in the rich cultural legacy of Tayabas town. We have to save it for the sake of the next generation."

With its five elegant arches measuring at least 11 meters wide underneath, Malagonlong bridge was built in 1840 under the supervision of Spanish friar Antonio Mateos.

"It was made of adobe blocks, limestone, molasses and eggs. Instead of cement, which was still unknown during those periods, the workers used eggs and molasses as binders," Abordo said.

"Our poor forefathers laboriously built the bridge for almost 10 years in lieu of paying taxes to the colonial government."

Against time and elements

Without any reinforced steel or any supporting beams, the old stone bridge had served Tayabas since 1850, standing the test of time and the elements.

Prior to the construction of the modern concrete bridge nearby, the Malagonlong bridge was Tayabas' only link to the towns of Pagbilao and Mauban.

A closer look at the underside of the bridge would reveal several undecipherable scrawls, apparently etched by its original builders, according to those familiar with the structure.

Taming the wild grass

Mayor Nadres said that after the Department of Public Works and Highways turned over the administration of Malagonlong bridge to the local government on Nov. 26 last year, the NHI subsequently declared the Spanish bridge one of the country's historical sites.

Abordo said the local government had been setting aside funds for the planned historical park and restaurant. Nantes and Quezon Gov. Wilfrido Enverga had also pledged to contribute money.

"We want to prevent the growth of wild grass as these would create cracks on the stone walls," Abordo said, explaining the clean-up work being done in the area by municipal laborers.

Bridges to the past

In the photos taken by this writer last October, when supervision over the Spanish bridge had not yet been transferred to the local government, the presence of tall grass in the bridge's surroundings had almost ruined its colonial distinctiveness.

But when this correspondent visited the old bridge a few days ago, the wild grass that used to grow out of every crevice of the bridge wall had been cut.

The NHI also built an adobe stone marker at one end, giving a brief historical insight into its construction.

Abordo said the 10 other Spanish bridges remained passable to all types of vehicles.

Old route to Manila

The bridges leading to Lucban town include the Puente de Bai in Barangay Dapdap; Puente de la Ese in Barangay Kamaysa and Puente de Princesa on the boundary between Tayabas and Lucban.

Abordo said that, based on historical accounts, the reason Puente de las Despedidas in Barangay Lalo leads toward Mt. Banahaw was that it was an old route going to Manila.

Four other Spanish stone bridges could be found on the national road going to Sariaya, he said.

These are the Puente de Alitao (built in 1793), which lies between Munting-Bayan and Tayabas poblacion; Puente de Isabel II (1854), which was built to honor Queen Isabel II of Spain; Puente de Urbiztondo (1854) in Barangay Malaoa, and Puente de San Francisco de Asis (1854) in Barangay Domoit.

Warning signs

There are no historical explanations why some of the bridges were built apparently at the same time.

"Probably, there were lots of laborers during that time," Abordo said in jest.

Aside from Malagonlong, Tayabas has two other Spanish bridges on the road going to Pagbilao, the Puente de Lakawan and Puente de Mate.

"All the 10 bridges are still passable," Abordo said.

Warning signs to motorists declare the load capacities of the bridges.

Tayabas is also proud of its "Casa de Comunidad," an edifice built by Gobernadorcillo Francisco Lopes in 1776 to serve as a tribunal and later turned into a lavish structure in 1837.

Now the repository of the rich cultural heritage of Tayabas, the building was declared a national historical landmark on June 1, 1978.

The longest Spanish colonial church in the Philippines, the Minor Basilica of St. Michael d' Archangel, is also found in Tayabas. It was built in 1585.

A place in history

But it is not only because of its bridges and churches that Tayabas has found its way into history.

A 19th century Filipino religious patriot, Apolinario "Hermano Pule" de la Cruz, led the Confradia de San Jose, a prayer group in Tayabas. In 1841, the group turned into a mass movement against the Spanish tyrannical regime.

The town of Tayabas itself was established in 1578 by two Franciscan missionaries, its first government born in 1620 with one Don Lucas as the first "alcalde mayor."

From 1779 to 1910, Tayabas was the capital town of the province also called Tayabas. The province is now called Quezon.

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OFWs in Iraq hiding from RP officials sent to track them

FILIPINOS working in Iraq are refusing to come home and some even hide from Philippine government officials trying to track them down because of the growing danger of attacks as the elections there approach, officials said Saturday.

Administrator Marianito Roque of the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration said only 49 Filipinos have so far taken advantage of an Owwa program under which they would be repatriated due to safety concerns.

There are around 6,000 Filipinos working in Iraq, many of whom went there despite a government ban imposed last year.

"The Filipinos even hide (from government officials) because they do not want to return," Roque said.

Kuwait-based labor attaché Angelo Jimenez was in Iraq to track down undocumented Filipino workers who had entered the country despite the ban, said Stella Banawis of the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration.

Manila had warned workers in Iraq that they were vulnerable to abduction and attacks ahead of the country's elections on Jan. 30 and should seek help from the Philippine Embassy.

The government cited the case of accountant Robert Tarongoy, who remains in the hands of Iraqi militants more than two months after he and an American were kidnapped in Iraq.

Despite the ban, numerous Filipinos continue to seek work in Iraq, many of them with civilian firms providing services for United States forces.

After the government penalized some local firms for sending workers to Iraq despite the ban, foreign employment firms resorted to recruiting the Filipinos in the countries neighboring Iraq, Banawis said.

"What the foreign employers do now is they are hiring the unemployed Filipino workers from Abu Dhabi, Kuwait, Turkey and in other neighboring countries... so the Filipinos now are not recruited from the Philippines," Banawis said.

The higher salaries for work in Iraq were still too much of a lure, she said.

The Philippines had asked countries bordering Iraq to help prevent Filipino nationals from entering that country.

Despite the threats, the government has said that ordering an evacuation of Filipinos from Iraq remains only a last, emergency measure. *AFP*

Amatong was not fired; revamp still up in the air

MALACAÑANG yesterday confirmed the resignation of Finance Secretary Juanita Amatong but gave no other details about a revamp in the Cabinet this year.

"Secretary Amatong has been a valuable team player who played a key role in the fiscal program, and there are others equally qualified in terms of patriotism and competence," said Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye.

Bunye's statement virtually confirmed reports circulating last week about a revamp in President Macapagal-Arroyo's economic team. Aside from Amatong, Energy Secretary Vince Perez is reportedly resigning from the Cabinet.

On Friday, Trade Secretary Cesar Purisima confirmed that he was moving over to the finance department vice Amatong. Malacañang is reportedly talking to Juan Santos, former chief of Nestlé Philippines, to take over from Purisima at the Department of Trade and Industry.

Socio-Economic Planning Secretary Romulo Neri said Amatong was neither fired nor asked to resign but was simply due for retirement.

"No, no, no. Secretary Amatong has done a very good job and she was an excellent finance secretary," said Neri in an interview over RMN radio.

Neri said there had been no talk about changes in the economic management team or the Cabinet in general during Malacañang meetings, including the last one held on Friday.

The President indicated last year that she would have two new faces in the economic team.

But when asked recently about the revamp, she was evasive, saying only that there was a continuous assessment of Cabinet members' performance and the new year was a good time to make the assessments. *Juliet Labog-Javellana*

5.4 quake hits South

A 5.4-magnitude earthquake struck the southern Philippines early Saturday, a seismology official said.

The quake struck at 1:54 a.m. and was centered about 184 km under the Celebes Sea, 115 km southeast of General Santos City in Mindanao.

"Earthquakes of this magnitude are common in the area, but most of the time they are not felt because they are very deep," said seismologist Joan Salcedo of the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology.

Phivolcs reported no damage or aftershocks from the quake, caused by the movement of the local Sangihe Trench.

The Hong Kong Observatory, which monitors seismic activity in the region, measured the quake at 5.6 magnitude.

The Philippines is along the Pacific "Ring of Fire," where earthquakes and volcanic activity are common. A magnitude 7.7 earthquake in 1990 killed nearly 2,000 people on Luzon. *AP*

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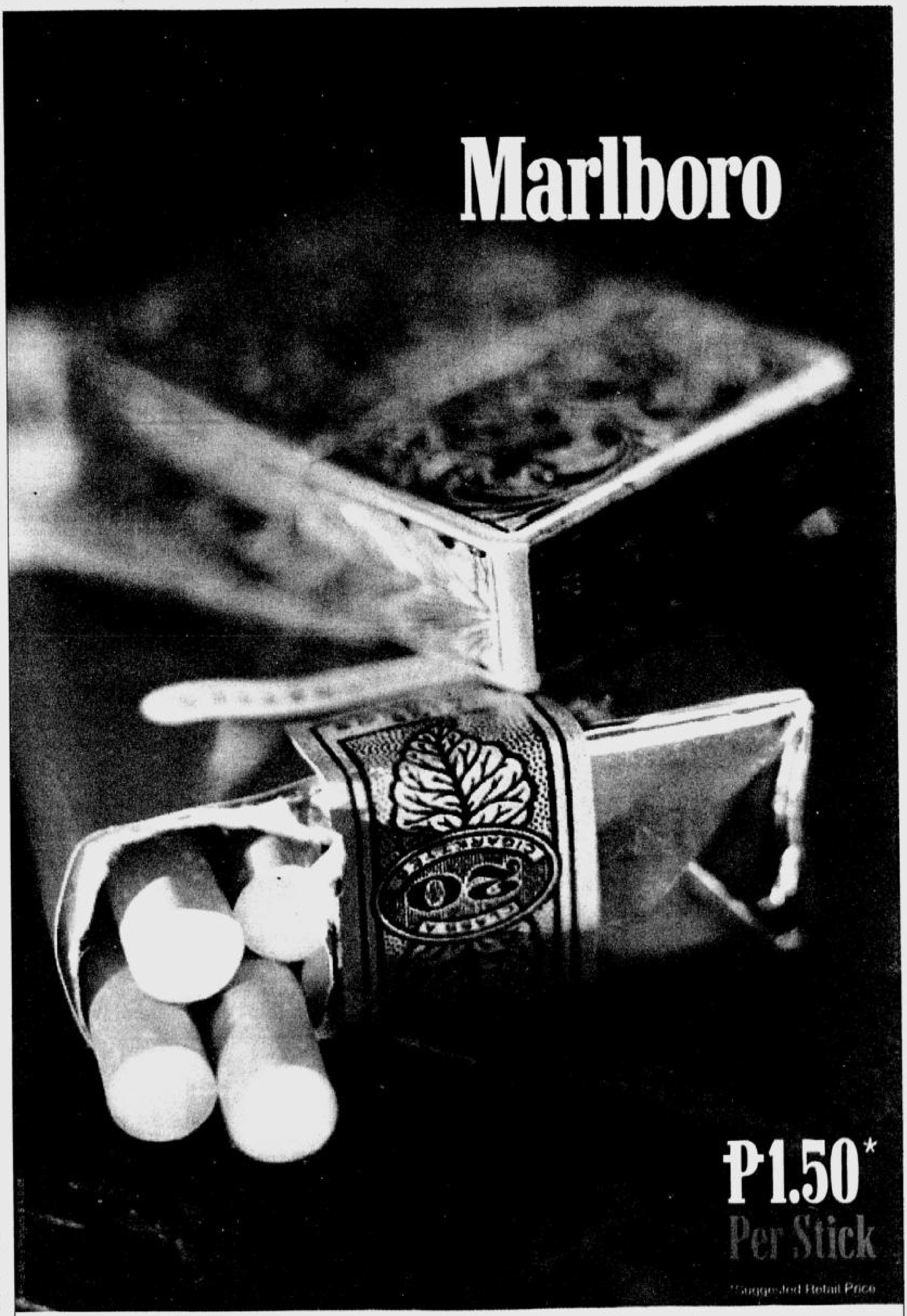

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The WORLD

Editor **Luverne B. Gueco**

WHO expects bird flu human transfer

HANOI—The World Health Organization has raised the specter of human-to-human transmission of deadly avian influenza following confirmation that two Vietnamese brothers had contracted the virus and one had died.

The WHO confirmed that laboratory results had found the two brothers from northern Vietnam had been infected with the H5N1 avian influenza virus. The older one, a 47-year-old, had died on Jan 9. The younger one, 42, was recovering.

The WHO said the younger brother was known to have provided bedside care for his sibling. But it said transmission might also have occurred during a family meal when raw duck products were eaten.

The WHO said it had not confirmed media reports that a third brother had been hospitalized with flu symptoms but it said limited transmission of the virus between people could be expected.

"All evidence to date suggests that isolated instances of limited, unsustained human-to-human transmission can be expected from avian influenza viruses in humans," the WHO said in a statement seen on Saturday.

"Their occurrence does not call for any change in the present level of pandemic alert," it said.

The virus is known to have killed 27 people in Vietnam and 12 in Thailand over the past year.

What the WHO fears most is that the virus could mutate if it infected a person sick with ordinary flu, or got into an animal hosting a human flu virus, such as a pig.

If the H5N1 were to merge with a human flu virus, it could produce a strain capable of sweeping through a human population without immunity, possibly killing millions worldwide.

Seven of Vietnam's 27 deaths have occurred in the last three weeks and media said on Saturday doctors were doing tests to determine if a woman who died on Friday in Ho Chi Minh City in the south also had the virus.

Tests were also being conducted on a teenage boy from Bac Lieu province who had died, reports said.

Southern Vietnam's bird flu test center, the Ho Chi Minh City Pasteur Institute, dismissed reports confirming the two suspected cases had been confirmed as bird flu.

"The test results on the two deaths are not affirmative, not clear yet," institute director Nguyen Thi Kim Tien said, adding that more tests were being done.

In the case of the two brothers, the WHO said transmission might have been poultry-to-human. It said preliminary findings pointed to a family meal in which a dish containing raw duck blood and organs was served.

"As a precautionary measure, similar culinary practices involving dishes containing raw poultry parts or organs should be avoided in all countries experiencing outbreaks," the WHO said.

The WHO warned on Thursday that the bird flu virus was now endemic in Asia and it appeared to be evolving in ways that increasingly favored the start of a deadly human outbreak.

It had become "hardier," surviving several days longer in the environment, and evidence also suggested that it was expanding its range of mammal hosts, including captive tigers and experimentally infected domestic cats, it said. *Reuters*

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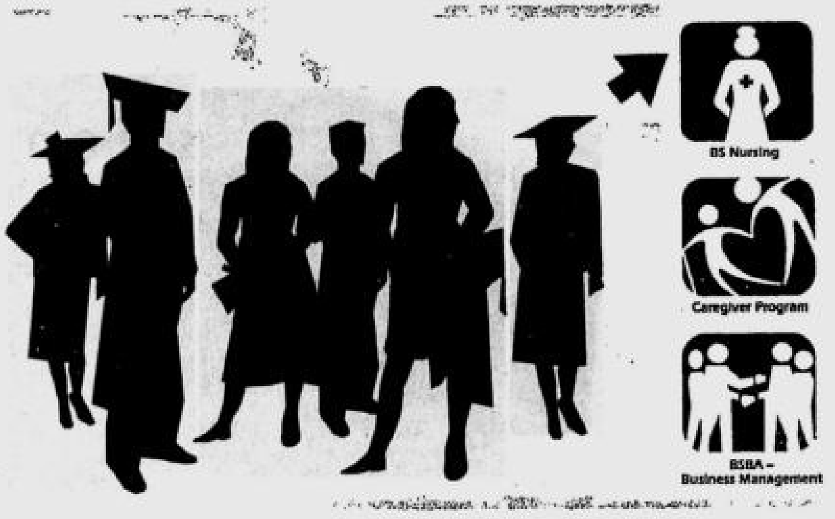

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8 Chinese hostages in Iraq freed

DUBAI—Eight Chinese hostages held by insurgents in Iraq have been freed, the Al-Arabiya television station said Saturday, citing a statement by their captors.

"The eight Chinese were freed and handed to the Committee of Muslim Scholars," a leading Sunni religious group in Iraq, a correspondent for the Dubai-based satellite channel reported from Baghdad.

"The liberation of the eight hostages came after China agreed to no longer send its citizens to Iraq," the reporter added.

The kidnappers had said they would spare the lives of the men if Beijing issued a travel ban for the war-ravaged country.

The Chinese foreign ministry said late Friday that it had already warned its citizens to stay out of Iraq.

"What I want to stress is that the Chinese government has previously issued warnings on many occasions to its citizens, requesting them not to travel to Iraq," foreign ministry spokesperson Kong Quan said in a statement.

Appealing for the immediate release of the hostages, Kong pointed out that the Chinese were abducted on their way out of the country.

"The eight Chinese people were kidnapped just as they were leaving Iraq. They should be safely released as soon as possible," Kong said.

The demand for the travel ban by the captors, who called themselves Movement of the Islamic Resistance Nuamaan Brigades, came in a video showing the hostages.

The eight Chinese men were shown on Al-Arabiya, standing in front of rocks, looking scared and confused.

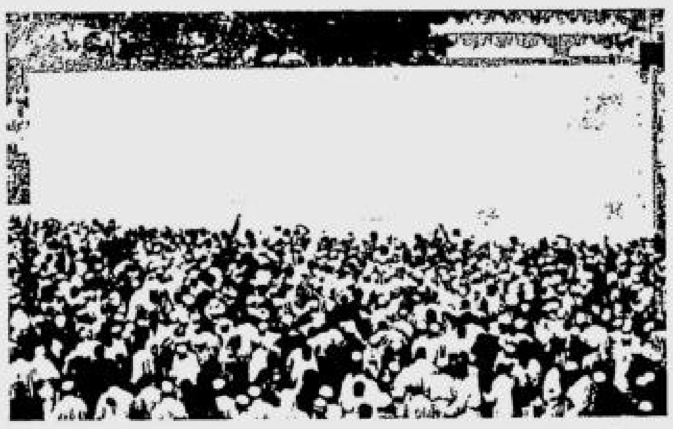
Seven Chinese workers abducted in Iraq last April were later safely released with the help of Iraq's Committee of Muslim Scholars. Chinese diplomats had again sought its assistance in freeing the current group.

On Tuesday, the kidnappers in the latest case released footage to Al-Jazeera television of the eight laborers holding Chinese passports and claimed they were helping the US military build facilities in Iraq.

The group demanded Beijing "clarify" its position on Iraq within 48 hours or the hostages would be killed. The ultimatum expired Thursday at about 1200 GMT.

The government and employers of the eight men denied any link to the United States.

On Friday, Li Huaxin, deputy director of the foreign ministry's Department of West Asian and North African Affairs, made a "humanitarian appeal," during an appearance on Al-Arabiya television, for the men's release. *AFP*



MUSLIM pilgrims "stone the devil" in Mena outside Mecca Jan. 21. About two million Muslims from all over the world gathered in Mena to perform the casting of seven stones at pillars symbolizing Satan. Haj is one of a Muslim's duties, as described in the five pillars of Islam. REUTERS

Many pilgrims stone Bush, the 'devil,' in Mecca ritual

MENA, Saudi Arabia—Haj pilgrims pelted stones at symbols of the devil on Friday, and many said they were targeting US President George W. Bush and other world leaders seen as oppressing Muslims.

Last year, 250 people were crushed to death in a stampede at Mena's Jamarat Bridge, but so far new measures by the Saudi author ities have averted any repeat. This year, more than 2.5 million Muslims streamed into the area for the stoning, meant as an act of purification and rejection of temptation.

Saudi Arabia's King Fahd and Crown Prince Abdullah urged Muslims to shun terrorism which they said meant "warring against God and his Prophet." Muslims should follow Islam's teachings of moderation and forgiveness and unite, they said in a statement.

Many pilgrims said they were thinking of Bush and his allies while they were hurling pebbles at the site where the devil is said to have appeared to the biblical patriarch Abraham.

"Yes, the devil is Bush and that other one from Israel—(Prime Minister Ariel) Sharon. And there's (British Prime Minister) Blair, too," said Egyptian Tia'amah Mohammed.

"We throw the stones so we can vent our anger at them."

Many Muslims revile Bush for his perceived bias toward Israel and the US-led invasion of Iraq. Anger at Sharon runs deep over Israel's occupation of Palestinian land and Jerusalem, the site of one of Islam's holiest shrines.

British journalist Yvonne Ridley, who converted to Islam after her capture by the Taliban in 2001 in the build-up to the Afghan war, said: "During the stoning I couldn't help thinking of Bush, Blair and Sharon."

Other pilgrims said politics did not cross their minds.

"This is all about God, and that's all I was thinking about when I threw the stones," Yemeni Ali al-Suweiny said.

In Washington, Bush issued a statement sending his greetings to Muslims round the world marking the Eid al-Adha feast. *Reuters*

Gay district planned in conservative US city

By Nicholas K. Geranios

SPOKANE, Washington—Gay activists in this staid Washington city are planning to create a neighborhood of gay-oriented homes, businesses and nightlife—a development religious conservatives contend would clash with Spokane's family-centered culture.

"A gay mecca is not what we'd like to see Spokane marketed as," said Penny Lancaster, director of Community Impact Spokane, a network of evangelical Christians. "I'd rather see us promoted as a conservative, family-oriented community without any reference to sexual orientation."

But proponents of the plan say a gay district would signal that Spokane is tolerant and progressive.

"There is a very large gay population here," said Bonnie Aspen, a business owner who arrived with her partner two years ago to escape the congestion of the San Francisco Bay area.

Spokane—which in trendy Seattle is shorthand for tragically unhip—has long been dominated by conservative politics that stem from its history as a mining and farming center. But it also has a large core of Democrats and libertarians who share the West's live-and-let-live philosophy.

Most of all, the city identifies itself as a good place to raise a family—and opponents contend that's at odds with the image of a gay district.

The idea for the district has roots in the theories of Richard Florida, an economist whose 2002 book "The Rise of the Creative Class" contends the economy of the future will be created by the 38 million workers who toil in creative industries.

Florida, a Carnegie Mellon University professor, said members of the creative class consider recreation, culture and ethnic diversity, including a large population of gays, as central to where they live. Places like New York, Boston, San Francisco and Seattle have those qualities. Places like Spokane generally do not.

Even though they face little discrimination, gays stay under the radar in Spokane, said Aspen, a member of the Inland Northwest Business Alliance, an association of gay and gay-friendly businesses that is pushing the idea.

"Visibility equals freedom," Aspen said. "Invisibility we have dealt with all our life."

She predicted a gay district will exist within the next year or two.

With about 200,000 residents, Spokane has little history of gay activism, other than an effort a few years ago that added homosexuals as a protected class to its human rights ordinance.

Tom Reese, an economic development officer for Spokane, said city government is not exactly pushing the notion of a gay district, but they don't oppose it either. *AP*

Tsunami-hit province may need another month to remove corpses

By Jim Gomez

LAM PEUNEURUT, Indonesia—Carrying a reeking cargo of 17 rotten bodies, Red Cross volunteer Hambali struggled to steer an overheated ambulance fizzling with steam across Indonesia's tsunami-devastated city of Banda Aceh.

After his white van rolled up to a mass grave in this nearby village this week, crews slid the corpses into the hole, burying a tiny fraction of the staggering number of dead killed by the Dec. 26 earthquake and tsunami.

Hambali—who only uses one name—lit up a cigarette and reflected on his work: 47 bodies collected in six trips.

"It's a productive day," he said.

The grisly job of finding the badly decomposed corpses is being done by 2,000 Indonesian troops, police and volunteers like Hambali. They're struggling with monsoons, power outages, dangerous debris and inadequate equipment.

Nearly a month after the disaster, thousands of bodies are still missing and the search for the dead is not over yet—slowed by the disarray that accompanied the unprecedented disaster.

One basic problem has been the confusion in the number of dead and missing that killed about 158,000 to 221,000 people in Asia and Africa.

Officials have given conflicting death tolls, making many volunteers wonder when their work will end in Aceh, a province on the northern tip of Sumatra island that was hardest-hit by the disaster.

In recent days, volunteers were still pulling out more than 1,000 bodies a day from the rubble, and the stench of death still hung in some places in the city.

The work has become more difficult and slower after the workers began delving deeper into mounds of debris choking wrecked houses. They've had to dodge rusty nails and mud-covered water wells that could swallow up volunteers.

"It's difficult to look for the bodies now. They're not found on the streets anymore. We're searching from house to house, from rubble to rubble," said Eka Susila, an official who coordinates the body retrievals.

The government had said it expected to end the retrieval on Jan. 26, exactly a month after the tsunami struck. But Eka said it may take two more weeks to a month to find and bury several thousand more bodies in villages outside Banda Aceh.

Across the capital, streets were fast being cleared of mud, debris and car wrecks. Occasionally, trucks laden with soldiers and stinking piles of bodies in black plastic bags, dart across crowded streets.

Hambali, who lost nine distant relatives to the tsunami, pledged to help until the last body was hauled to the grave.

"They should not be out there," he said. "Every body needs a decent burial." *AP*

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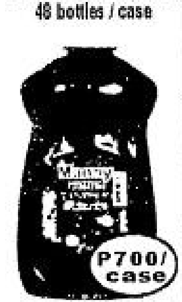

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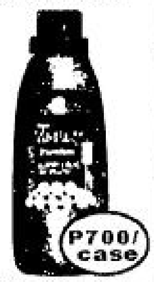

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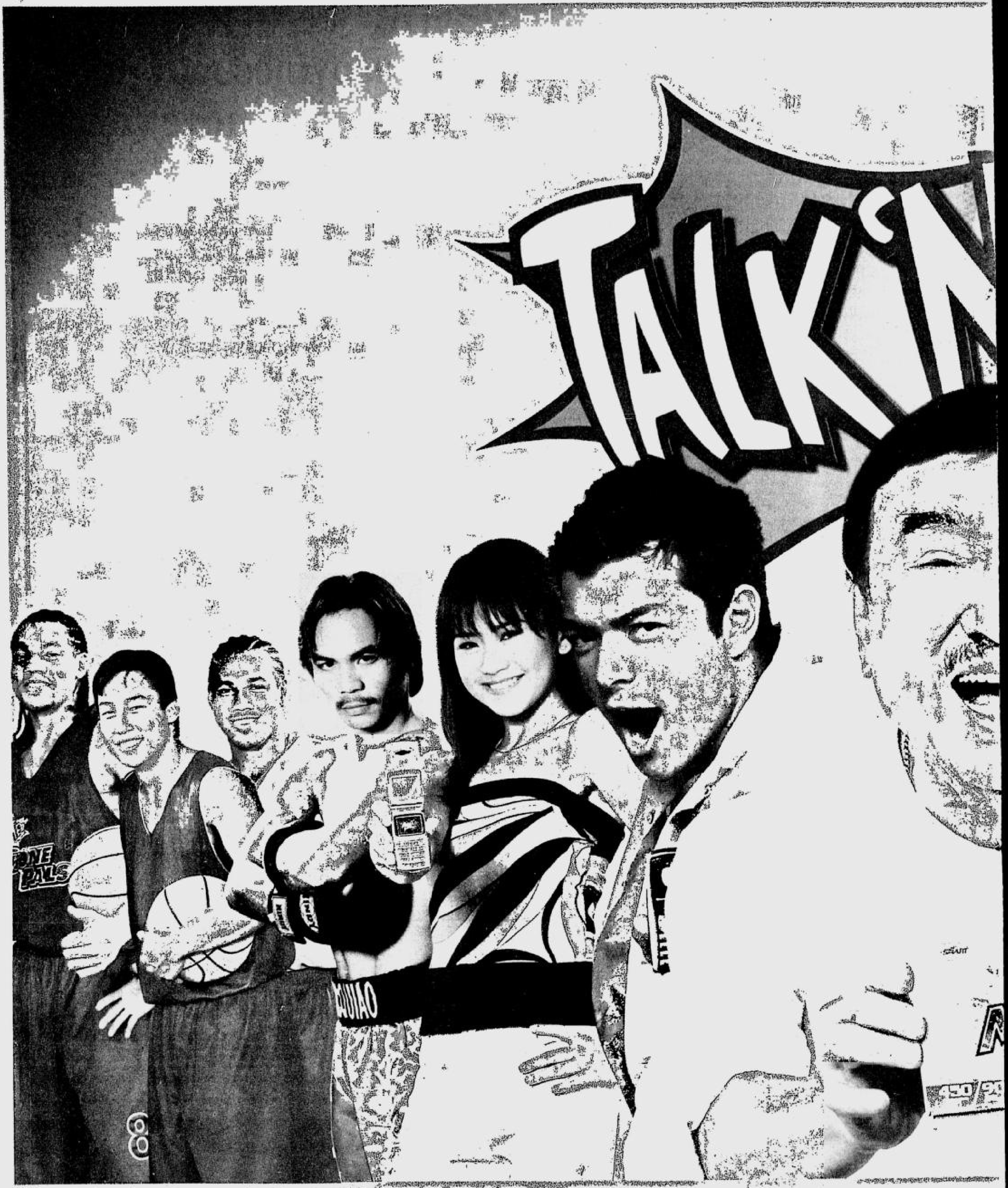

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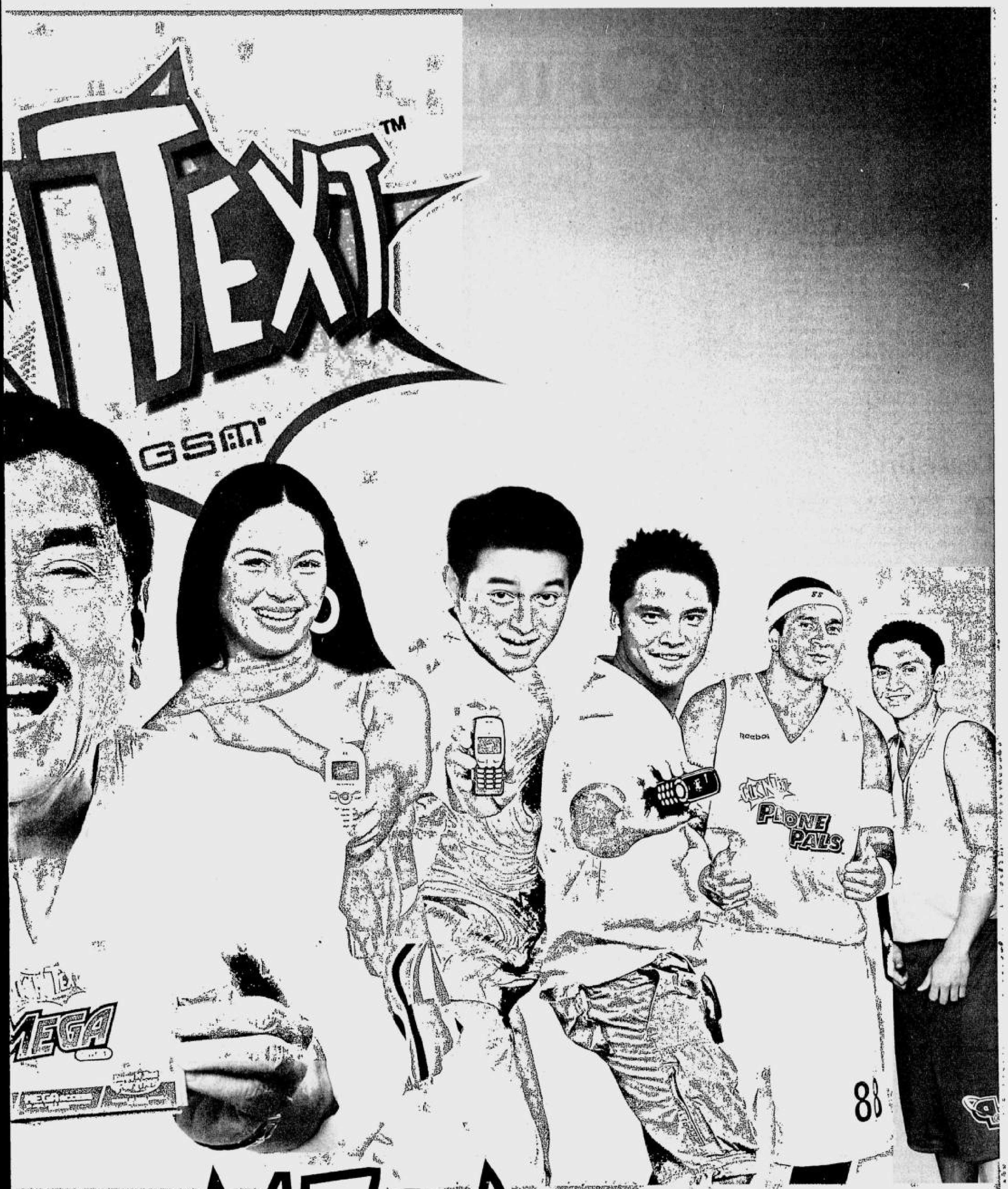

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Cease fire

Editorial

THE NEWS from tsunami-stricken areas has taken a disturbing, if not unexpected, twist in recent weeks. Renewed fighting between government troops and insurgents in some parts of Indonesia and Sri Lanka has effectively held relief operations hostage. The violence threatens to complicate rehabilitation in the two countries most severely damaged by the Dec. 26 calamities.

The news also reminds us, as we struggle with our own relief and rehabilitation efforts in eastern Luzon, that we must do all we can to prevent the same violence from overtaking the most affected areas. The Philippine National Red Cross has the right idea: A six-month ceasefire between the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the New People's Army operating in the area offers the best form of prevention.

In Aceh, the Indonesian province hit hardest by the Dec. 26 earthquake, the fighting has already gone back to pre-calamity levels. According to the Indonesian military, government troops killed about 120 Acehnese rebels in the last two weeks.

Indonesia's top general defended the military action, saying the rebels were killed because they were interfering with relief operations. "We cannot allow that to happen. We have to be able to guarantee that aid workers—foreigners and Indonesians—are safe to do their work," Gen. Endriartono Sutarto said.

But the foreign press reports that the flow of aid has not in fact been disrupted. And the Aceh rebels' spokesman said only 20 rebels had been killed, and accused Jakarta of killing over a hundred civilians.

The clashes, however, may yet cause an early withdrawal of US military presence in the province. A decision to recall the 16 US Navy ships off the coast of Sumatra, possibly to get the 11,000 American soldiers on the ground conducting relief work out of harm's way, will be an unbearable setback for the relief operation. American helicopters carry the main burden of distributing relief aid.

The situation in Sri Lanka, which has an even older insurgency, is not as grim, but the ceasefire between government forces and Tamil Tigers is wearing dangerously thin. Both sides have accused each other of interfering with relief work. Tamils are reported to have hijacked relief goods allocated to the Sinhalese, while Sinhalese have been reported to have stopped relief caravans bound for northern Sri Lanka, Tamil territory.

Chillingly, these reports do not strike us as unfamiliar.

Late last year, while the country was still in storm shock, the NPA attacked an AFP infantry unit that was on its way to rescue flood victims in Bulacan. Ten soldiers died; six others were injured. The NPA offered a lame excuse for its ambush: The soldiers, it said, were on a military mission.

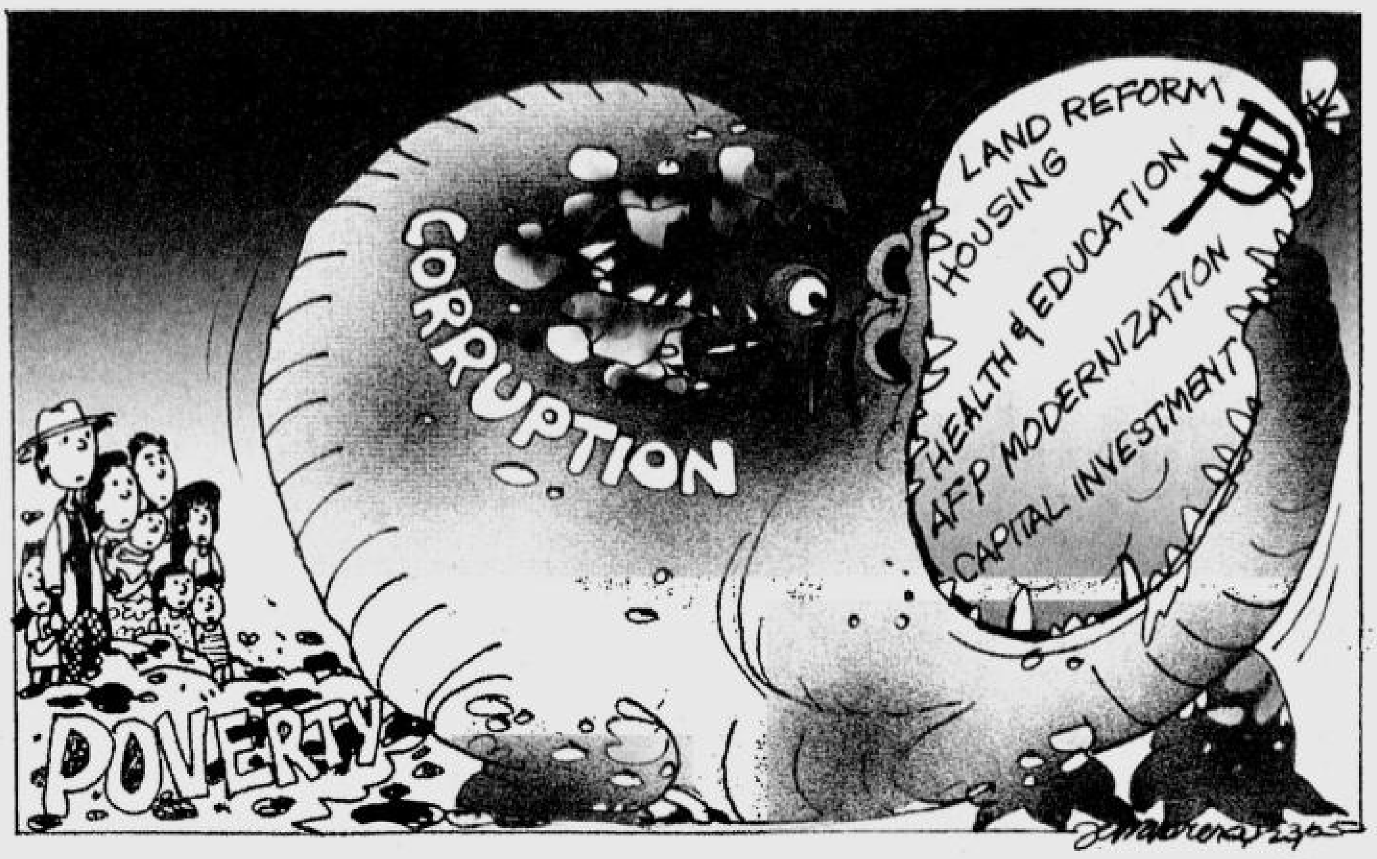
All told, over a thousand people perished in the floods and mudslides last November and early December. But the deaths of the 10 soldiers were a special case. For one thing, they had put themselves in harm's way. They were on their way to a calamity zone. For another, the NPA's attempt to justify the ambush and diminish their sacrifice ended up doing the exact opposite.

Could the same thing happen again? Could an armed encounter, initiated by either side, interfere with the slogging work of relief and rehabilitation? Because the seven most affected towns are inside or near NPA-contested territory, the answer can only be "Yes."

The communist insurgency has smoldered in parts of eastern Luzon for decades, and the citizens of Infanta, General Nakar, Real, Dingalan, Baler, San Luis and Maria Aurora have seen their share of the fighting. To get back on their feet, to recover from the trauma that overran their lives, they need the fighting to stop—if not for good, then at least for a few months.

Both relief agencies and peace advocates call it a "six-month humanitarian ceasefire." In the Red Cross' reckoning, six months is the absolute minimum needed to complete the relief campaign and begin the rehabilitation work in earnest. But it is also enough time for concerned citizens, both in the seven towns and outside, to plant the seeds of lasting peace.

We add our voice to the growing chorus. Cease fire!



Titles for self-esteem

Separate Opinion

Isagani A. Cruz

A READER with more scorn than logic chides me for my article on "A weakness for titles" (PDI, 12/4/04) as another proof of my "usual" derision for the Filipino people. He probably resents me for occasionally finding fault with our country, which certainly is not perfect despite his jingoism. In his preface to the "Noli Me Tangere," Rizal spoke of the ancients who took their sick to the steps of the temple not to deride them but so they could be cured by the gods. That was his purpose when he recited the ills of the nation that he hoped would be healed by their exposure.

I had a similar intention when I wrote of the vanity of some of us for exhibiting their titles in life and even in their obituaries to impress the public. They don't want people to forget how important they are, or were. The customary titles of Mr. or Mrs. are not good enough for them; they must be addressed as Attorney or Engineer or Architect or their names must be suffixed with a Ph.D. to inform everyone that he is dealing with an erudite person over and above ordinary mortals. Sometimes they even have stickers of "Ph.D."on the rear windshields of their cars for all to behold and admire.

This know-it-all critic would have me know that titles are accepted in England, where they have kings and queens, princes and princesses, dukes and duchesses, barons and baronesses, and other royal distinctions. The key word is "royal," my dear fellow, which we are not, being citizens of a republic unlike the subjects of the maharajah and the maharani, who are also of majestic blood in India. And he says that the French use "Monsieur" and "Madame," which, for his information, are the equivalent of the humble "Mister" and "Missus" to which I do not object. What is hoity-toity in my view is to substitute these usual prefixes with professional titles to impress unpretentious people who cannot, or will not, make similar displays of their importance.

In any case, the fact that other peoples use high-sounding titles is no argument that we should do the same. That is abject imitation. If we should imitate, it should be the best in others, like, in my example, the practice in American courts of addressing counsel as Mr. Proper instead of Attorney Yabang as in our courts, including the Supreme Court. One does not need to advertise our profession, unlike doctors who are allowed to use prominent signs or shingles for their easy accessibility in case their services are urgently needed. I remember that at the gate of the multi-titled Jose P. Laurel's house on Shaw Boulevard in Mandaluyong, there was a small metal shingle that simply read under his name "Abogado."

Whenever Don Claro called me up on the telephone when I was a young lawyer, he would begin with, "Mr. Cruz, *si* Mr. Recto *ito*." Another person who does not proclaim himself is former Senate President Jovito R. Salonga who, with all his academic and political achievements, signs his letters to me simply as "Jovy." By contrast, there is that tycoon who liked to be addressed as "Don" by his lackeys but now prefers to be called by the title of "Doctor" conferred upon him *honoris causa* by an obscure but presumably well-rewarded university. It takes all kinds, but I prefer the humbler of the species.

As far as I know, Alexander who conquered the civilized world during his time, never called himself "the Great." He massacred hundreds of thousands like Hitler, who signed himself only with his surname without more for history to condemn him. Thomas Jefferson, in writing his own epitaph, described himself as the author of the Declaration of Independence, a defender of religious freedom, and the founder of the University of Virginia. He did not mention that he was the third President of the United States.

Our national hero, who excelled in many fields, ended his letters with "Rizal," probably with the foreknowledge that his country would remember him without more specific identification. He was a patriot, writer, doctor, linguist, botanist, painter, sculptor, sportsman, lover, among many other distinctions, but he often omitted to write his full name and even the erroneous middle initial P. He did not trumpet his achievements like some of our current Ph.D.'s who believe that their degree alone, no matter how acquired, entitles them to the adulation of the masses.

I have not mentioned the name of my angry detractor because that may give him the prominence he wants but does not deserve. Is he Attorney, Engineer, Architect, Ph.D., or Censurer or Nag? I hope he will be satisfied with Mister for that is honorable and respectable enough. He may have a weakness for titles that will require a more bombastic appellation to suit his inflated self-esteem, but I will not oblige him.

God calling, you listening?

Moments

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

I HEARD the story that a group of women recently held a meeting to help the tsunami victims. Aside from raising funds, they also decided to bring to their next meeting whatever useless things they had around in their houses. Guess what? In the next meeting, they all turned up with their husbands!

* * *

In today's Gospel (Mt. 4, 12-23), Jesus called simple fishermen to become fishers of men. Nobody is useless in God's eyes and in God's work. God's call is not so much a matter of ability, but willingness. As long as you are willing, God will use you, whoever you are, whatever you have been, whatever you are going through. Yes, we are all called to His heart, to His work, and this is not because of us, but in spite of us.

* * *

We have a new provincial superior in the Philippines' SVD Central Province in the person of Fr. Pol Jaucian, SVD. Father Pol himself acknowledges his "humble beginnings." He started as a *sacristan* in the Christ the King Mission Seminary. Because of God's call, he entered the seminary and braved poverty and uncertainties throughout his formation. Simple, humble, diligent and personable, Father Pol went on to become a priest, spend 10 years of missionary life in Taiwan and served as parish priest of the St. Jude Shrine in Manila. And now, he is the provincial superior who will lead us. Mysterious indeed are the ways of God. Great is His might, deep is His wisdom, and big, so big is His love!

* * *

A funny thing happened on my way to the house of Pete and Boots Anson Roa last Sunday, the feast of the Sto. Niño. I was already on their street, but I didn't have their exact address. After going around for some minutes, I stopped the car and prayed, not quite knowing what to do next in that helpless situation. Just then a band of children, on a Sunday morning neighborhood patrol checking on the fruit trees and whatnots, passed by. I rolled down my car window and asked them where the Roas' house was—and surprise, surprise—they all yelled they knew where it was, and led me there. In gratitude, I gave them some money, and after they left in glee, I couldn't help but reflect on the goodness of God, the simplicity of children and the need for us, adults, to be humble. If I did not acknowledge my helplessness, if I was not humble, if I did not follow them, I would never have found what I was looking for. You know why you can't seem to find God? It is because you are not honest enough, not humble enough and not obedient enough.

* * *

Fr. Wim Vergoossen, SVD, was one missionary who left his beloved Holland at a young age and served the Lord in the Philippines for most of his 84 years of life. When I think of the zeal and dedication, the trials and the struggles, the humility and the simplicity of the missionaries who have gone before us, I can't help but be grateful to God, and be humbled and edified by their love for God. May God bless and reward them, and may God be merciful to us. Amen.

* * *

The call of the Lord continues. He needs men and women who will continue to teach, proclaim and heal. Are you doing something, anything for the Lord in your life? Are you so busy making money, having a good time, or perhaps solving personal problems and agenda that you have left out His agenda in your life? Please remember that He who gave you life and who gave His life for you, has an agenda for you.

* * *

Jan. 24-30 is National Bible Week. Let us go back to God's Word, the foundation for unity and transformation. Let us be nourished, inspired, formed and fed by the Bible. Do you have a Bible? Do you read the Bible? Do you live the Bible?

* * *

Calling those who need understanding and healing of wounded relationships. Our confrere, Fr. Ed Fugoso, SVD, is offering weekend retreats through psychogenetics and Gestalt therapy in the light of the Gospel at the SVD Retreat House in Tagaytay City (046-4130340/09175414330). The retreat begins Saturday noon till Sunday noon. Sometimes the call in life is not to go forward, but to go back (retreat), so that one can be recharged and move forward again.

* * *

Thank you Mr. Sergio Dizon for your kind letter to the Inquirer last Jan. 20. Our column "Moments" is a simple and humble attempt to remind hearts that God is present and real in the here and now.

* * *

Our guest on Studio 23, this coming Sunday will be Loren Legarda. Please join us in our TV Mass and talk show, 7 a.m., every Sunday.

* * *

Fatima Soriano, the blind 11-year-old girl who had a kidney transplant last year, who has inspired so many people by her simplicity and joy, told me that she dreamt of Mama Mary who pointed to her some money. But as the money increased, it suddenly became dark, she said. Yes, money can brighten up your life, but too much money can actually darken it.

* * *

A moment with the Lord:

Lord, help me to be more honest, humble and obedient so that I can hear and follow you. Amen.

Why not Parayno at Finance?

REVEILLE

Ramon J. Farolan

THE REPORT last Friday that President Macapagal-Arroyo was not inclined to further extend the term of office of Philippine National Police chief Edgardo Aglipay is a disturbing reminder of the game of musical chairs being played by the administration, as it concerns the leadership of the PNP and the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

The President herself has praised Aglipay for doing a good job as national police chief. The question that arises therefore is: Why not let him continue the good work? One of the recurring criticisms that we hear about the President these days is that she is still paying off election-related debts. Another is that she is coddling former President Estrada for fear of possible destabilization actions by his followers. Her recent announcement concerning Aglipay comes as he is under fire from Sen. Jinggoy Estrada for alleged arrogance in the treatment of family members. The timing could not have been worse.

* * *

Yesterday, the Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association had as its guest speaker a man of the cloth. In a departure from tradition, Fr. Joaquin Bernas, SJ, addressed the association's annual general membership meeting at Camp Aguinaldo. In the past, the guest of honor was either the president or the defense secretary. Perhaps, it is a realization that in the light of current difficulties being faced by some of its alumni, the association needs all the intercessions available in order to secure passage into the Kingdom of Heaven.

* * *

For the last 60 years since the restoration of our independence as a nation, there have been only two Filipinos who have occupied the two most sensitive positions in the Philippine government. These two offices are responsible for the great bulk of the revenues needed by the national government for operations and development work.

Former Pampanga Gov. Jose B. Lingad served as Customs chief and later Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) commissioner during the administration of President Diosdado Macapagal. He was also a former congressman and commissioner of the Games and Amusement Board (GAB). The current BIR chief, Guillermo Parayno Jr.—"Willy" to most of his friends—was appointed Customs commissioner in 1992 and served for six years under President Fidel V. Ramos. He was named to the BIR post in 2003 by President Arroyo.

Of late, there have been reports of Finance Secretary Juanita Amatong retiring soon from office. "Nits" and I were colleagues at the Ministry of Finance during the tenure of Finance Minister Cesar Virata. At a recent post-Christmas dinner party hosted by Mr. Virata, Nits herself intimated that she was moving on.

The search for a new finance secretary has actually been going on for some time now. Most of those approached belong to the private sector. A few names have been mentioned. It seems to me that in casting her net outside the department for a replacement, the President may have overlooked the talent that is available from within.

I refer specifically to Willy Parayno. Anyone who can serve at Customs and the BIR and acquit himself with distinction, as Willy has done, deserves a crack at the top position in the department. Anyone who has served in the frontline trenches of the finance department, as long as Willy has done, without a trace of corruption hovering over his head, deserves an opportunity to head the office. And Parayno has the drive, the dynamism and the invaluable experience to make things happen. Not for nothing is he known in the business and finance world as a "systems man."

I do have a few more observations about Willy. **First,** he doesn't look like our typical finance secretary. With his chubby cheeks and boyish face, he looks more like a kid fresh out of college. But then, this isn't a race for the Oscars. It's a race for survival. **Second,** he doesn't dress like our typical finance secretary. His necktie is old-fashioned, most of the time a bit askew, and his jacket is not the latest cut. Some figures in government are better models of sartorial elegance, but unfortunately, they don't hold a candle to Willy when it comes to performance. **Third,** the fellow is not a product of Wharton, Harvard or Stanford. He comes from the Philippine Military Academy Class of 1970, the University of the Philippines, and the Asian Institute of Management where he got his MBM, plus an award as one of its most outstanding graduates. The guy is completely homegrown and is the best proof that one doesn't need a foreign diploma to excel. Unfortunately, we have this thing about western diplomas. **Fourth,** he addresses most people with a "Sir," a reflection of what most of us learned at the PMA—when in doubt, salute! But don't let that fool you. He will put you in place the moment you start acting like a wise guy. **Fifth,** his stints at Customs and the BIR have provided him with invaluable experience at managing spoiled bureaucracies used to having their way. Most of our finance bosses were more adept at handling figures rather than managing people. **Finally, Willy has not been in the banking business so he does not know very much about borrowing. And this to my mind represents his greatest asset. Since borrowing is not part of his expertise, he will have to drive his customs and BIR people to collect even more than they have ever done in the past if he is to accomplish his mission of narrowing the deficit staring us in the face.**

Why not Parayno at Finance? We might be pleasantly surprised.

A man and a town

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

IN 2000 and then again in 2002, at the height of the military actions against the Moro Islamic Liberation Front in Central Mindanao, workers at the La Frutera Banana Plantation in Datu Paglas, Maguindanao, became restive. Many of them were, after all, former separatist rebels with the MILF and even the Moro National Liberation Front, and almost all of them were Muslims.

Hearing of the bombings and strafing in Buliok, and how thousands of residents—Christians, lumads and Muslims—were forced to flee to Pikit and Pagalungan, the men in the plantation gnashed their teeth in frustration, threatening to take up arms once more. But the late Hashim Salamat, then chair of the MILF, sent a message directing them not to leave their work in the plantation because it was just as important as the armed struggle.

Still, says Datu Ibrahim "Toto" Paglas III, former mayor of Datu Paglas (the town is named after his grandfather), the town was not spared the impact of the war. In 2000, more than a thousand families from the Ligwasan Marsh sought refuge there. In 2002, hearing of the plight of the war refugees, La Frutera employees brought relief goods, including bananas, to the evacuation centers. When the military raided a training camp of the MILF and found La Frutera bananas in the storage rooms, a general confronted Paglas, wanting to know why he was aiding and abetting the rebels. "I could only scratch my head and tell him their families must have given them to the rebels."

That is how Paglas, the moving spirit behind La Frutera, successfully plays a balancing game, running a successful agricultural export enterprise in one of the least developed corners of the country, and, as he puts it, "transforming a war zone to an economic zone."

* * *

FOR this feat, Paglas has been recognized both here and abroad for his leadership and the economic miracle he has pulled off.

He brings up his lack of a college degree so often in his speeches and conversations that one suspects he's actually proud of it. But unlike others—say, Erap who poked fun at educated people and downgraded the importance of schooling—Datu Toto earnestly declares that "education is the bottom line" in the race to address the economic problems that confront the country, most especially the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM).

Though he ran for governor of the ARMM and lost to Parouk Hussin ("Would you believe I even supposedly lost in my own town?" he exclaims), Paglas, a former three-term mayor who was succeeded by his younger brother, Abubakar, better known as "Totoy," now rejects the political route to development. "We need to give our people economic opportunities," he says. "No matter how many peace accords they sign, it will all be a waste of ink if the warriors have nothing to go back to but poverty and hopelessness."

* * *

IN HER book "Jalan-jalan: A Journey through EAGA" (written with Criselda Yabes), Marites Danguilan Vitug describes the town of Datu Paglas as "a place made extraordinary by its people, inspired by a leader restless for change."

In his first term as mayor, Paglas concentrated on restoring or, perhaps, establishing, peace and order in his town. It had been the site of fighting between MNLF troops and soldiers since the 1970s, and became the stomping ground of cattle rustlers and highway robbers when the skirmishes quieted. There were also periodic outbreaks of "family feuds caused by land disputes, political rivalries, or personal animosities." Paglas, who stands at six feet and exudes a manly appeal, managed to tame the "wild" townsfolk mainly by proving that no one would be spared if he did wrong. "I wasn't afraid to arrest and punish even my own relatives," he recalls, which wasn't all that easy since everyone in the town is in some way related to him by blood or affinity.

After chasing the criminals away, Datu Toto then went after potential investors. In 1996, with the help of a sympathetic Ramos administration, he was able to bring in investors from Saudi Arabia and Italy, and even from Manila, and established La Frutera. Chiquita Banana brought in consultants from Panama and even Israel. Today, the company exports bananas under the brands Chiquita Banana and Unifrutti to the Middle East, Japan, Iran, Singapore, Hong Kong, Korea. It has just established a foothold in China.

* * *

MORE important, La Frutera employs over 2,000 workers, 30 percent of whom are women (mostly in fruit-handling and packing), in its 1,200-hectare Datu Paglas plantation. It has also expanded to Bukidnon, where it leases a property planted to golden pineapple and white asparagus; as well as to Lanao del Sur.

The plantation has spawned a network of allied industries: a truck hauling service to bring the bananas to Davao, banana chips processing, a rural bank (a rarity in Muslim areas), motor repair shops, small restaurants and, of course, *sari-sari* stores.

Still, poverty persists in Datu Paglas despite the many signs of economic improvement. Which is why Datu Toto makes good use of the network he has built here and abroad to entice private investors as well as non-government organizations and international aid agencies to come to the aid of his town and region. When Paglas met Rina Lopez Bautista of the Knowledge Channel at a conference in Bangkok, the latter was so impressed that for the launching of their Team Mindanao project to bring education TV to schools in the ARMM, "we had no other site in mind but Datu Paglas."

Thanks to Datu Toto, the town and its leader will remain "top of mind" with whoever is looking for hope in the poorest part of Mindanao.

Should we give up on people power?

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David

IF the participants of Edsa 1 and Edsa 2 were to be asked today if they would join another people power uprising, they would likely say no. They would say that people power promises many things but delivers nothing. That it substitutes the shortcut of a political surgery for the long painstaking task of building a healthy democracy.

I think they would be essentially correct in their analysis, but wrong with their decision. As a nonviolent but unconventional mode of changing a dysfunctional government, people power has its virtues. It revitalizes the people's engagement with their society as citizens. It opens for them the chance to free themselves from entrapment by self-perpetuating structures. It arouses in them the universal optimism associated with the arrival of a newborn—the expectation of a better future. People power is a form of consciousness. It is a means to achieve a set of goals, not the project itself.

But the sense of frustration is understandable because powerful instincts do define the spirit of people power—the readiness to act and to measure the outcome in terms of a morally gratifying national future. One can say the same thing of the great French and American revolutions. In our case, the projected future had three basic goals: democracy, good governance and social justice. These elements mark the principal enemies of people power in our time, namely: dictatorship, corruption and poverty.

The 1987 Constitution laid out the fundamental goals of the people power revolution and provided us the basic legal and institutional instruments with which to realize our desired national future. Almost 20 years have quickly passed, and we should be in a better position to assess the extent and quality of our achievements. Were the two Edsas really just a waste of time? I would hope not. But instead of thinking of people power as a single event, it may be useful to think of it as a continuing process.

We have made significant headway in preventing a future dictator from abusing constitutional powers in order to install an authoritarian regime, but we are far from eliminating those conditions that make the rule of the strongman a seductive alternative. Such conditions precisely point to the unredeemed promises of the two people power uprisings in our country, namely, the eradication of mass poverty and the elimination of corruption. The persistence of poverty and corruption in scandalous proportions persuades many Filipinos today that all talk of institutional reform is meaningless without political will. And political will cannot come from the conventional politicians who benefit from the system; it can only come from visionary leaders who oppose the system.

It would be tragic if we abandoned the spirit of people power today just because the governments that rose to power in its wake produced the opposite of its avowed intentions. That is not unexpected. For as long as people power is not driven by a clear and coherent alternative plan, its aftermath will always be dominated by the masters of the familiar. We saw this in 1986 and in 2001: the old politicos jockeying for strategic roles in the process of reconstruction, advocating the same worn-out formulas and exploiting the new regime's need for instant stabilization.

In this regard, it is worth noting that Edsa 1 carried a greater potential for radical change than Edsa 2 because it was willing to go farther and risk more to dismantle the old society. It threw away the existing Constitution and, for one year, ruled as a revolutionary government. It abolished the Batasang Pambansa, and reorganized the Supreme Court. It removed most of the local government officials and replaced them with its own appointees. It appointed a Constitutional Commission to write a new constitution. The new government had every opportunity to institute a new social order, but became more timid as it began to worry about its own survival. This timidity grew in proportion to its growing dependence on the services of traditional politicians.

Edsa 2 provided yet another opening for change, but this one was closed almost as quickly as it came into view. What started out as a comprehensive battle for good governance was narrowed down into a surgical removal of a corrupt and incompetent president, and his replacement by the vice president. The movement's revolutionary edge was blunted by a Supreme Court decision that represented the whole episode as the voluntary resignation of a president rather than the overthrow of an entire regime. Except for the incumbent president and his Cabinet, everyone else was retained in place, as if corruption was a disease lodged in only one person.

We now know that corruption is not just the fault of a person; it is, more importantly, the function of a whole system. It is not only an individual trait, but an entire way of life. When Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo stepped into Joseph Estrada's position in January 2001, she, in effect, began to preside over this way of life. Nothing changed because the roles and the script remained.

We may think of people power as a nation's willful attempt at self-organization for a brighter future. Ranged against it are the weight of tradition and the allure of the familiar. The challenge it will always face is how to set up, to borrow a phrase from Jurgen Habermas, its own "Constitution for the victorious peace."

We should never give up on people power. But those who choose to answer its call must work hard to prepare the ground for its own Constitution.

* * *

Comments to davidinquirer@yahoo.com

Birth joys

WHILE haggling for the best price at "*wagwag*" stores or scouting for choice cuts in the local meat shop, I would occasionally meet people who greet me effusively. Of course, I'd reciprocate the gesture, although most of the time I do not quite recognize who they are. Usually, taking the cue from there, they would then take it upon themselves to tell me how they came to know me. They'd explain that their mothers had told them I was the midwife at their birth. They would then name their mothers (many of whom I have no recollection).

HIGH BLOOD

Cecinia L. Vallejera

WE'D also like to know the concerns of the sixtysomething and above, what makes their blood pressure rise or makes them sit back, content that all's well with their world and with themselves. **—Ed.**

I have been a midwife these past 42 years, and my, you can just imagine how many women I have assisted in birth. Some of them even have grandchildren now. And a good number of the babies I have pulled out of their wombs are now professionals—engineers, teachers, etc.

These 42 years have given me many good laughs—at how mothers cope with the pain of childbirth, each in their own ways; and how fathers respond to their wives during labor. The whole experience has provided me insights into the wonderful world of parenthood.

Talk about mothers who seem to lose their minds when the pain of labor sets in. They lie on the floor, yell at their husbands or bite their nails. There was one mother I assisted in 1987 who went up and down the stairs; nobody could stop her and she begged to be left alone.

Then there are mothers who curse their husbands to hell with the nastiest expletives, blaming them for the extreme pain. Hah! As if they did not enjoy, too, the romance that went along with their child's creation! And, of course, there are the those who, at pain's peak, swear to the highest heavens never to give birth again, only to get back the next year, and the next, and the next, for their regular pre-natal checkups.

I'll never forget Sarah, a classmate of one of my children, who gave birth the "ideal" way. Sarah is every midwife's ideal mom. Tell her to calm down, and she will. You can see the pain on her face—and her attempt to conceal it—but you will never see her fret or lose her composure. She will follow your every instruction, such as "breathe deeply, push, push, slowly now, bear down." If all mothers in labor were like Sarah, then midwives would have no nightmares.

Now, about husbands. I've seen a husband gently wiping the tears and sweat from his wife's face while the latter kept crying that she could die anytime soon as she could no longer bear the pain. The husband stood by her, comforting her and building her strength with loving words. Writhing in pain, the wife asked if he'd marry again should she die. Already weeping himself, the husband replied, "*Mama, wag kang magtatanong ng ganyan, hindi ka mamamatay, kayanin mo* (Mama, don't ask me that question, you're not going to die. You're going to make it)." It was then that our janitor, who was called in to replace the already messy sheets on the delivery table, butted in, "*Kayanin mo misis, kung ayaw mong iba na 'yung magsuot ng mga duster mo at magdilig ng mga halaman mo (Madam, if you don't want somebody else wearing your housecoat and water your garden plants, you better make it).*"

Another husband was so overwhelmed to see that his firstborn was a baby boy, but he had to rejoice discreetly to avoid hurting his mother-in-law who wanted a baby girl as her first *apo* (grandchild). When I asked for baby clothes, he took out neatly ironed baby stuff, all colored pink, embroidered with the name "Clarissa," which were obviously prepared by the granny. Extremely overjoyed, he treated us to a sumptuous *merienda* of *pancit palabok* and *siopao*. I later stood as one of the *ninangs* (godmothers) of the baby who was named Clarence. I wonder if the granny ever bothered to change Clarissa to Clarence on the baby's pink clothes.

Not to forget the irresponsible husbands and fathers. They're no good, but I'll devote a few lines for them here. After all, I saw them also playing roles in my 42-year craft. Many of them are mere "sperm" donors. All they do is just impregnate their wives and go on their merry ways as if there's nothing to care in the world. There was one time when a diabetic mother was huffing and puffing while trying to let out a 6.7-pound baby girl. The only one who accompanied her was a little girl barely 10 years old. I later found out the child was the woman's eldest in a brood of six, with the baby as the seventh. "And where is your father?" I asked her in the dialect. "He's with our neighbors drinking *tuba* and playing cards." Oh, the good-for-nothing fellow!

Sure, there are the guys who run away upon knocking down their girlfriends. The poor, cowardly "deserters." I don't mean they have to marry their sweethearts as marriage is not a solution to an unwanted pregnancy, but at least they should learn to face the consequences of their actions. In here, the prominent actors I see are the grandparents. It is in such situations where I see cold-hearted grandfathers suddenly turn mellow upon seeing their *apo*; and nagging wives suddenly become doting *lolas* to new grandchildren. And yet, a few moments back, they were cursing their poor daughter's fate. The next moment, each of them swears the baby has inherited their looks, taking turns impatiently to hold their grandchild. Also, it is almost always during this time where they realize that they have a daughter with whom they had been remiss in providing guidance and understanding—though they may never openly admit this. Hatred melts into compassion, and before the mother is discharged from the maternity house, the parents have sworn to take care of the baby, send the daughter back to school and help her move on with her life.

Forty-two years in the midwifery service, and still counting, until late next year when I turn 65 and finally retire from government service. I am sure that with almost one more year to go, more mothers, fathers and grannies will give me reasons to laugh and ponder at the wonder that is called parenthood. What a wonderful thing to be a part of the process of procreation!

Cecinia L. Vallejera, 64, is a rural health midwife in Palo, Leyte.

THEY SAID

Rosary-armed rangers

"THEY were armed only with rosaries in the face of death threats from poachers and illegal loggers."

—Rep. Juan Miguel Zubiri on the sorry state of the country's very few forest rangers

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TALK of the TOWN

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Where will the masses turn for hope?

A GROUP of professionals seeking long-term change in the country claims that the country's leaders have not made a difference to the lives of the poor over the past four decades.

Pagbabago@Pilipinas says that the highly skewed income distribution shows that nothing much has changed in the way people gain access to the country's resources.

The group likens the Philippines to an atoll of high-income class, an island of middle-income class and a vast sea of low-income class.

It says that in 2000 the richest 1 percent (some 150,000 families) had a combined income equivalent to the total income of the bottom 38 percent (some 5.8 million families).

Inequality may in fact be getting worse, according to Pagbabago. In 1990, the richest 20 percent had income 13 times that of the poorest 20 percent. Ten years later, the ratio had worsened to 16 times.

Despite the 10-point program of the Arroyo administration, Pagbabago sees no significant improvement in the lot of the poor, raising the possibility that they may turn elsewhere for salvation.

Malacañang, of course, has a different view. It says that poverty had been reduced from 44.2 percent in 1985 to 28.4 percent in 2000 and that the people rating themselves as poor dropped from 56 percent in December 2000 to 48 percent last month.

People's patience wearing thin

By Mario Taguiwalo

Share of total income

Group	1961	2000
Upper 50 percent families	82.4 percent	82.2 percent
Lower 50 percent families	17.6 percent	17.8 percent

Opinion surveys last November and December tell about growing pessimism. Higher prices of basic commodities seem to have made life for the ordinary Filipino harder. The more educated and better off ones entertain migrating to greener pastures abroad.

Earlier reports indicate large numbers of Filipino families experiencing hunger. It will take some time before the underlying material conditions of most Filipinos improve, if at all they will improve.

Large-scale economic change affecting millions does not happen in weeks or months. At best, such change could unfold slowly. Meanwhile, the collective mood and outlook have to improve by becoming more positive before economic conditions can become better.

Scarce commodity

Hope is a scarce yet urgently needed commodity. It is particularly important among the masses who survive on a day-to-day basis.

The first possible source, maybe even the traditional default option, of hope for the nation is the President, the prime leader of our nation.

About 92 percent of Filipino voters belong to classes D and E. According to the results of the national canvass of the 2004 presidential election, President Macapagal-Arroyo (GMA) got 12.9 million votes and Fernando Poe Jr. (FPJ) got 11.8 million. Most of the votes of these two candidates could only have come from class D and E voters, or the masses.

One can make the case that about half of the masses pinned their hopes on a GMA, who had been three years on the job, while the other half of the masses reached out for an FPJ, a leader in their dreams and imagination, since he had no track record in a national office. That was last May 2004.

Higher expectations

Those who voted for GMA probably have higher expectations from her than the FPJ voters who probably need convincing that she can lead them. For the President to lead the nation, she needs to show most of the masses that she is their leader regardless of whom they voted last May. Have the masses turned to the elected and proclaimed president for hope? The results of the November and December opinion polls showing increased levels of disapproval and pessimism indicate a negative answer. Not yet.

Hope, defined by the dictionary as "desire accompanied by expectation of forthcoming fulfillment," is a critical need among the masses if our nation is to hold together in peace and stability over the near term. Hope among the masses is not an optional condition, not something that will be nice to have. Hope is probably a must if our democratic government and free society are to have the time, space and opportunity to deliver on beneficial reforms. Unfortunately, this administration has very little time to offer better prospects and show initial results. Even before GMA came to the presidency, the patience of the masses had been worn thin.

Inequality getting worse

Available data tells us that the masses have been hoping in vain for at least 40 years. From 1961 to 2000, median income of Filipino families increased 80 times from P1,105 to P88,782 a year. Yet the bottom half of families below the median survived with 17.6 percent of the total income in 1961 and still subsisted on 17.8 percent of the total income by 2000. From Macapagal the father, through the Marcos dictatorship, the democratic restoration of Cory, then Ramos, and Estrada to Macapagal the daughter, through four or five Constitutions, the nation's socioeconomic storyline remained the same: the bottom half of families continued to subsist on less than a fifth of all income even as the top half took the remaining bulk. *(See table)*

Instead of abating, inequality may be getting worse. In 1990, the richest 20 percent had income 13 times that of the poorest 20 percent. By 2000, this ratio had worsened to 16 times. Other Asian countries have comparable inequality. Comparable ratios of the richest 20 percent of families to the poorest 20 percent over the past 20 years averaged 14 times in Malaysia, 12 in Thailand and 10 in Hong Kong.

Unfortunately for us, the Philippine gross national product grew only 11 times from 1960 to 2000 while Malaysia's grew 39 times, Thailand's 48 times and Hong Kong's 172 times. So even as rich Filipinos grew richer relative to the poor, all Filipinos, except possibly the super rich, grew poorer relative to our neighbors in Malaysia, Thailand, and Hong Kong.

Struggling middle class

The Philippines has very few really rich families, some struggling middle class folks, and a vast teeming masses of the poor and very poor. The economy is edging forward slightly ahead of the growing population.

Remember that 92 percent of all Filipino voters come from classes D and E. Those who belong to class D have dwellings, which are made of light and cheap materials and are generally shabby in appearance. The homes have no lawn or yard but have scanty furnishings and are found in crowded or shabby neighborhoods. Those who belong to class E live in dwellings that are small, dilapidated and makeshift, usually a *barong-barong*. They have bare furnishings and are found in slums.

Poverty rates as measured and reported by government move up or down mostly due to relative changes in the prices of basic commodities. The movement is not really due to underlying and enduring changes in income-producing wealth among Filipinos. This has been the case in 1960 when we were only 27 million, as it had been in 2000 when our numbers increased to 76 million, as it probably is in 2005 when we are already more than 83 million.

Polluted rivers, lakes

Meanwhile, our country's forest cover has declined, coastal areas deteriorated, rivers and lakes polluted, educational quality eroded, and accumulated human capital dissipated. In other words, the stock of natural resources from which our survival and sustenance come have become less available as our population increases. Our time to make a change has shortened tremendously. So realistic hope must offer not only the prospect of real change but must do so sooner rather than later.

Where can the Filipino masses turn for hope? It is hoping for imminent yet authentic and meaningful change. Our elected and proclaimed president is often our country's first option, our go-to person, for offering us the message on which many can hook up their feelings and beliefs before they can be induced to move their butts and backs.

Before we change our reality, we need to change our attitude first. But our leaders must provide us with credible signals, faint or muffled these might be, that we can regard as genuine signs of direction, resolve and purpose that can galvanize our hopes.

I am sorry but citing increased sales of beer and cell phone load as indicators of a vibrant economy will not do.

Greater desperation

Drinking and texting seem more like signs of greater desperation rather than stirrings of productive optimism. I have not yet met anybody respectable who thinks of the President's 10-point legacy agenda as powerful levers for moving the nation forward to higher safer grounds. At best, attaining what the President sets our country to achieve in the next six years is akin to walking away from an incoming tsunami. It might save a few lives but it will not take us to a path safe from the coming deluge.

I do not see how the major initiatives and big ideas placed by this administration on the nation's table thus far can significantly improve our long-standing fundamental socioeconomic realities. Can the President lead the nation to finally make the crucial steps to turn away from the more than 40 years of failure that came before her? Or will the masses lose heart in this elected government and turn elsewhere for their salvation soon?

(Taguiwalo is a member of the board of Pagbabago@Pilipinas, an organization of young successful professionals who are combining their competencies and resources to contribute to long-term change in the country.)

'It's the economy, stupid'

By Rigoberto D. Tiglao

Mario Taguiwalo's article is a bit confused. Is it a critique of the administration's program of action? Or is it a critique of its public image?

By putting the subjective concept of "hope" as his key idea in his article, it is obvious that he is concerned not with the administration's program, but with its imaging—elements of which he himself listed such as "credible signals," and "signs of direction, resolve and purpose."

"The New Society" and "Erap para sa Mahirap" are slogans, which had for a time created tremendous hope for the masses. At the end of the day though, what mattered for the masses was an administration's governance and program of action, whether these improved their conditions.

We can curse the situation, and rant about our nation's failure to increase the share of the masses of the national pie in the last 40 years. Or we can rally around the republic's leadership to finally put our house in order and start reversing inequality.

There is no need to think of some grandiose plan to uplift the masses.

Road map

The country's leadership already has a plan. And in the past three years, it has made much gains in executing this program of action.

President Macapagal-Arroyo's "10-Point Program" may not make much for dramatic flair. It is admittedly difficult to translate it into a demagogic propaganda campaign that will stir up the masses.

But it is logical and achievable road map for the masses' journey to the promised land of prosperity.

Three on the list seem out of place as they are political in nature—an end to the armed insurgency of the New People's Army and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, the healing of the wounds of the Edsa uprisings, and the automation of the election process.

But they are aimed at finally removing one major factor that explains much of the faltering economic growth: political instability.

Insurgency

The two years after Ninoy Aquino's assassination and the buildup to the people power revolt saw the gross national product contract by 9.1 percent and by 7 percent. The coup attempts in the late 1980s also led to the economy's slowdown that resulted in another contraction by 1991. Malaysia, Thailand, and Hong Kong never had years of such severe economic contraction.

We are the only country in East Asia with a communist insurgency, which has dampened investor confidence. Ironically, for movements that promise the liberation of the masses, the communist and Moro insurgency has led to increased poverty of the masses wherever it has made significant gains. Look at the list of the country's poorest provinces. These are mostly areas where insurgency has been intense.

Rave about Malaysia and Thailand's growth. But don't forget that their leaders had waged ruthless campaigns against insurgency in the 1960s and 1970s to end it decisively.

Taguiwalo's grim statistics on the share of the masses of national income actually conceal this simple fact. They have no jobs, or poor jobs at best. It's simple arithmetic: if 50 out of a hundred people, who are either unemployed or have jobs paying very little, the other 50 jobs would obviously account for the bulk of the hundred people's total wealth.

Jobs

Thus, the Arroyo administration has declared a definite target for jobs to be created, at least 10 million jobs during her term, one of the most important in her 10-point program. Education is one key to getting jobs. Thus, universal education is part of the President's 10-point program.

The rest of the program aims to create the overall conditions conducive for business investments: a balanced budget, new growth centers outside Manila, and better transportation facilities and infrastructure.

Taguiwalo's implicit theme is a 1950s and 1970s world view of the masses robbed of their share of the nation's wealth, of the ruling class unfairly distributing the shares of the national pie. Thus, his subliminal prescription of some savior leading the masses to claim (confiscate?) a bigger share of the national pie.

Redistribution

But there are no more venues for a drastic redistribution of assets within a Constitution prescribing property rights. Land reform was one of the last methods of redistribution.

There are still, however, less dramatic but important venues for redistribution. One is Ms Arroyo's asset reform program along the lines developed by the Peruvian economist Hernando de Soto. This involves such programs as property rights for the urban poor and massive provision of microfinancing.

The bigger work of changing the country's inequitable distribution of wealth involves mainly two things.

First is the task of creating the conditions for overall economic growth, which generates well-paying jobs and reduce inequality. This is the incontrovertible lesson of modern history. Look at the list of countries with the highest gross domestic product per capita in the world. With only a few exceptions, these are the countries where inequality is low.

Direct asset redistribution projects are less important in this day and age. To use that Clintonian slogan, for a different purpose though: "It's the economy, stupid."

Taxing the rich

The *second* is the major means of redistributing wealth in a capitalist economy: creating a welfare-state, or semblance of it. This involves taxing the rich and the middle-class heavily to raise resources to empower the poor. All grandiose plans to uplift the masses are brought down to earth with the question: How to fund these?

Look at the United Nation's list of top five countries with the highest human development index, which measures not only national wealth but also distribution and the citizens' quality of life: Norway, Iceland, Sweden, Australia and The Netherlands. These are countries where the rich and even the middle class turn over at least 50 percent of their individual incomes to the tax collector.

But again, it's not simply an arithmetic of taking from the rich to give to the poor. Raising tax rates of the upper classes, which after all have savings to be used for capital, requires calibrating it with the goal of increasing investments. Thus, much of modern economic theory involves creating the calculus for such calibration.

Ms Arroyo's campaign to convince Congress to reform the tax system may have been prodded by the need to close the budget deficit fast. But it may be the prototype for the much-delayed national project of redistributing wealth.

Poverty reduced

It's not an impossible task. Despite all our problems and setbacks, the situation is not bleak. In 1985, 44.2 percent of households were below the poverty line. By 2000, according to the latest data available, this went down to 28.4 percent.

The recent Social Weather Stations (SWS) survey indicates that there have been gains in poverty reduction under Ms Arroyo. In December 2000, 56 percent of the SWS respondents rated themselves as poor. By December 2004, only 48 percent did so.

Look at the figures and at the President's program more closely. It's not a mystery why, by Taguiwalo's calculation, 11.9 percent of the Filipino *masa* decided to pin their hopes on the hardworking President with a track-record, and not on someone who merely promised hope and mouthed catchy slogans.

Maybe the masses know more than Taguiwalo.

(Tiglao is secretary and head of the Presidential Management Staff.)

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INQUIRER Mindanao

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Historians safeguard Butuan's ancient site

By Ramon Jorge Sarabosing
Butuan City

THE AREA is extremely ordinary—an out-of-the-way dirt road with rice paddies on both sides. But for archaeologists and historians, it is a major historical spot that may add to the city's prestige as Mindanao's historic gateway.

A report on the geo-archaelogical study of the National Museum concluded that the place, known as the Bequibel Shell Midden in Sitio Tuway, Barangay Bonbon, southwest of Butuan City, is a significant cultural depository that holds importance in local cultural history.

What first attracted the scientists to the area and led to its study is the distinctly large amount of shell deposits locally called *tuway*. Initial research showed that the shells were ancient and that there was a need to study them scientifically.

The owner of the lot said the area used to be a mound of shells but was flattened to make way for road development.

The thick midden was made up of several layers. Found in these layers were intact shells, a layer of crushed shells, followed by fully crushed shells with some portions exhibiting burning or exposure to high temperature. The shells were freshwater, indicating that the midden could have been located near a river and that the rice field could have been an ancient river.

Previous excavations have yielded cobble tools, flakes and flake tools, earthenware and other such artifacts. Also recovered were the bones of pigs, chickens and other animals. The latest excavation yielded human bones buried along the pile of shells.

The scientists placed the shell midden at the Neolithic period, falling under 5050 BC to AD 950, or the latter part of the Stone Age.

"This is a breakthrough discovery in relation to the historical reconstruction of Butuan as it confirms the [existence of a] Stone Age community antedating a growing society in the area a thousand years before the Spanish colonizers came," said Greg Hontiveros, president of Butuan City Historical and Cultural Foundation and author.

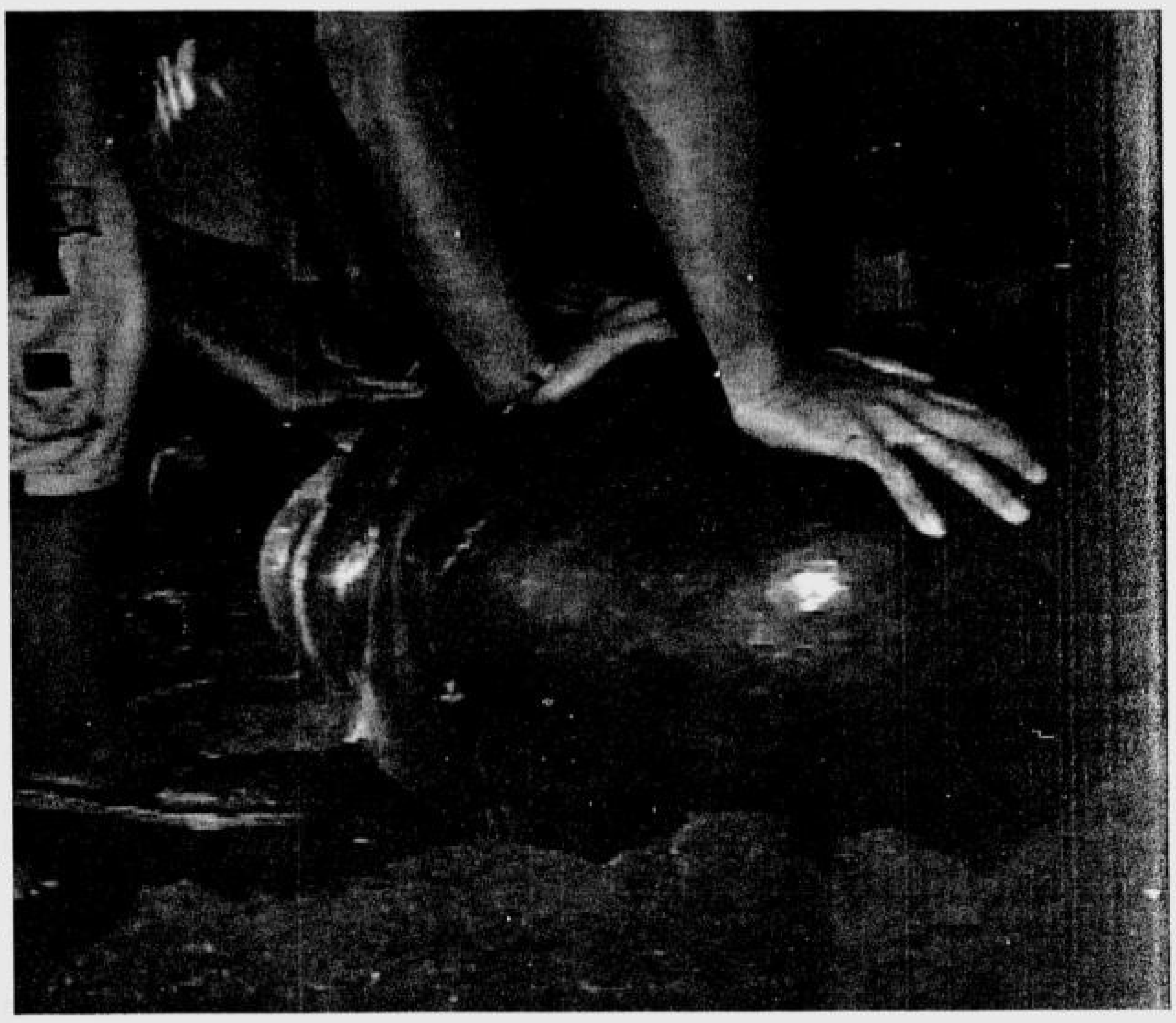
The shell midden area is the only one being studied thoroughly in Mindanao that should benefit the country's historical legacy, he added.

He revealed that, more than anything else, the area is worth protecting and preserving for historical integrity.

The historical society is thus calling the attention of the public and private sectors for support and involvement. This is a challenge to the people of Butuan whose city, already known for its ancient *balanghai* boats, bountiful antique Chinese wares and Manobo culture, is emerging as a historic complex.

The National Museum team recommended five measures that the historical society hopes the city government will support. These are:

- Further study on the midden, particularly its archaelogical component
- More absolute dates to be obtained from the artifacts and ecofacts recovered from the midden
- Protection of the midden site from destruction by development projects and progress
- Making the shell midden a site museum, sparing it from being completely wiped out from Butuan's prehistory, and
- Requiring an archaelogical assessment for development projects that involve earth-moving activities to avoid unnecessary damage and destruction to potential archaeological sites.



THE PILOT whale rescued in Sarangani Bay

AQUILES Z. ZONIO

Sarangani shore folk save pilot whale

By Aquiles Z. Zonio
Sarangani Province

INSTEAD of butchering a pilot whale, shoreline residents together with Gov. Miguel Dominguez of Sarangani province helped the mammal swim back to sea on Jan. 10.

The governor said pushing the whale back to the sea was "like pulling a carabao that still does not want to plow the fields."

"Never mind how hard the task, what's more important was [that] we were able to save the mammal," Dominguez said.

It was almost 10 p.m. when the mammal, upon reaching the water, began to swim back to the high seas to the delight of many spectators.

Seven hours earlier, employees of the Sarangani Agricultural Company Inc. (SACI) rushed outside when informed that there was a whale swimming closer to the SACI private port.

The governor immediately proceeded to the area upon receiving the report. More people trooped to the SACI port, including some photographers and members of the media.

The mammal was eventually washed aground when nightfall came.

Dominguez and several fisherfolk pulled the pilot whale back to the sea using their bare hands and rope to save the mammal from death.

According to a fact sheet of the American Cetacean Society, the pilot whale is a member of the dolphin family, and is second only to the killer whale in size.

It does well in captivity and is easily trained, displaying intelligence equal to that of the bottlenose dolphin. It is extremely social, and is well known for stranding in groups of a few animals up to several hundreds at a time.

The pilot whale has a distinct rounded head with a very slight beak and an upcurved mouthline.

Males are much larger than females. Adult males measure up to 20 feet (6.1 meters) and weigh up to three tons.

Giusseppe Chiew, Coastal Resource Management Program officer, said it was not the first time that whales and other rare and endangered marine species had been sighted on Sarangani Bay.

The environment department has confirmed the presence of rare species of turtles, giant clamps, triton, sea cow and pilot whales, he said.

Rene Paraba, executive director of the Environmental Protection and Conservation Center (ECPC), claimed that Sarangani Bay serves as a "migration highway" of various marine species.

He asked bayside residents not to resort to illegal fishing to protect marine mammals seeking sanctuary in the bay.

The stretch of Sarangani Bay covering some 345 sq. km was declared a protected seascape by former President Fidel V. Ramos on March 5, 1996, under Proclamation No. 756.

Turkish group sacrifices 450 cows

AS PART of Eid'l Adha (sacrifice), the Turkish community in Zamboanga City slaughtered a total of 450 head of cows to be distributed to indigent families in the city and in Metro Manila.

Prof. Mahmut Altun, assistant director of the Filipino-Turkish Tolerance School in Zamboanga City, said 7,500 families from this city and 500 families in Manila will get three kilos of beef each.

"This is part of the *zakat* (offering) of Eid'l Adha. This is our tradition, thanking Allah for the blessings we received and we share some of these blessings to other needy families," Altun said Thursday.

Altun said they bought the cows, each costing about P5,000 to P10,000, from all over Western Mindanao.

He said the money used to buy the cattle came from donations from Muslim Turkish communities in Australia, Europe and Turkey. *Julie S. Alipala*

VERITAS ET LUMEN

The Beacon School

The Board of Trustees, Faculty, and School Community are very pleased to announce that the school has been accepted as an IB World School by the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) based in Geneva, for its Primary Years Programme (Pre-School to 5th Grade).

The Beacon School is the first and, at present, the only school in the Philippines to be authorized to offer the IB Primary Years Programme.

The school has also received official recognition by the Philippine Department of Education (DepEd) for its Pre-School to 8th Grade programmes.

The school thanks members of the school community for their support, faith and belief in a shared vision.

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Dam faces closure over unpaid taxes

BAYOMBONG, Nueva Vizcaya—Officials of the upland town of Alfonso Castañeda have threatened to shut down a foreign-owned power generation facility due to its failure to pay taxes to the local government, Gov. Luisa Lloren-Cuaresma said on Friday.

Cuaresma said acting Alfonso Castañeda Mayor Jerry Pasigian has vowed to close the 150-megawatt Casecnan Multi-Purpose Irrigation and Power Project (CMIPP) after its owners failed to meet the Jan. 20 deadline set by town officials for the payment of local taxes.

The CMIPP is an independent power producer that was built for $400 million through a 25-year build-operate-transfer agreement between the Philippine government and American firm California Energy (CE)-Casecnan, owner of the CMIPP.

It is composed of two weirs that collect water from two main rivers of Alfonso Castañeda and divert it through a pair of 26-km tunnels leading to a power plant, before releasing the water to the Pantabangan reservoir in Nueva Ecija.

The impounding dams and the tunnels are located in Alfonso Castañeda, about 150 km from this capital town.

After a meeting on Friday, Cuaresma declined to heed the request of CE-Casecnan officials, led by general manager Raymund Cunningham, to stop Pasigian from closing the facility.

"I told them that it was not within my power to stop any action the town officials of Alfonso Castañeda may intend to take," Cuaresma said.

"Besides, [CE-Casecnan] has yet to pay the P168 million it owes the provincial government in real property taxes which it has not paid since the start of the plant's operation [in 2001]," Cuaresma said.

The INQUIRER tried to talk to Cunningham on Friday but he immediately left after the meeting with Cuaresma.

The National Irrigation Administration, however, came to the firm's rescue when NIA Administrator Proceso Domingo asked Local Government Secretary Angelo Reyes to "intercede to stop" the Alfonso Castañeda government from closing the facility.

The plan of town officials to shut down the CMIPP was "illegal and baseless" as this is not sanctioned by the Local Government Code, Domingo said in a letter to Reyes, a copy of which was obtained by the INQUIRER.

Domingo said in enforcing payment of delinquent taxes or fees, the town government should file a civil case to compel CE-Casecnan to pay.

Domingo sent copies of his letter to Reyes to the Office of the President, to Finance Secretary Juanita Amatong and Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez.

Cuaresma said Pasigian, the first Bugkalot native to serve as mayor of Alfonso Castañeda, would ask the support of Bugkalots in the villages of Lipuga, Pelaway, Cawayan, Abaca and Talbec, comprising the project's primary impact zone, in enforcing the closure order.

"I have given Mayor Pasigian my assurance that I would always be behind them in this fight. There's no turning back," Cuaresma told the INQUIRER.

In his "final demand" letter on Jan. 13, Pasigian gave CE-Casecnan until Jan. 20 to pay its local business taxes, or face closure.

Pasigian, however, refused to issue a business permit to CE-Casecnan even after it paid some P11.3 million to the local government on Jan. 19. *Melvin Gascon, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

GMA vows to finish airport on Panglao

By Jhunnex Napallacan
PDI Visayas Bureau

CEBU CITY—President Macapagal-Arroyo on Friday assured officials from Bohol that the implementation of the multibillion-peso airport project in the resort island-town of Panglao would be prioritized under her administration.

The President would want to finish the estimated P4.2 billion airport project before the end of her term in 2010, Bohol Gov. Erico Aumentado said yesterday.

Aumentado said the President gave this assurance during their dinner meeting at the Malacañang sa Sugbo on Friday evening. The others present in the meeting were the three Bohol representatives—Edgar Chatto, Roberto Cajes and Elpidio Jala.

Aumentado said the President would issue two separate executive orders for the fast-tracking of the airport project.

The first EO will amend the Air Transportation Inter-modal Network System to prioritize the Panglao Airport Development Project as the top airport project under the Philippine Development Program from 2005 to 2010. The second EO will create the steering committee to supervise the project, he said.

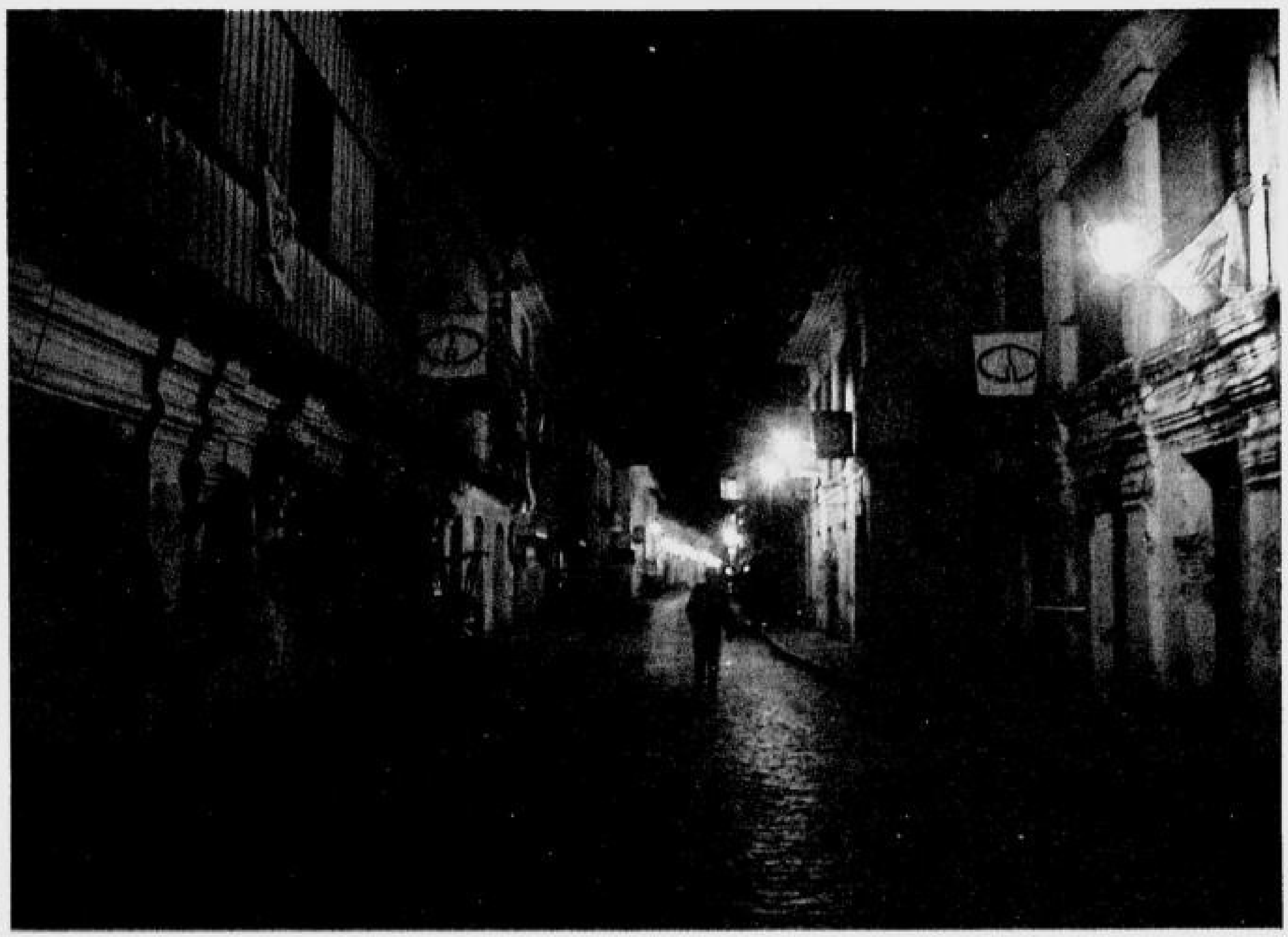
The President has already issued last year Memorandum Order 157 creating the Panglao Airport Development Project Management Office under the supervision of Transportation Undersecretary Jose Torralba.

Right now, the project is still at the land acquisition level that will hopefully be completed by the end of this year, the governor said.

Of the 220 hectares proposed site for the airport, only 65 hectares had been acquired so far, Aumentado said.

Aumentado said the bidding for engineering works might take place early next year. The period of construction will be three years.

Aumentado said there are four big Overseas Development Assistance institutions that are willing to fund the project.



VIGAN DAWN
TOOTS SOBERANO/PDI NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU
The streets of Vigan City, Ilocos Sur, emit a warm glow at dawn. The city is on the list of the Unesco's heritage sites.

Unpaid SSS loans in North Luzon reach ₱300M

BAGUIO CITY—The unpaid loans that the Social Security System in Northern Luzon would have to collect has reached P300 million as of December 2004.

The amount is part of the agency's P21-billion outstanding collectible dating back to the 1970s, said Luis Olais, assistant vice president of the SSS Northern Luzon cluster.

Olais, during a press forum on Wednesday, said there is no assurance if the SSS could collect the complete amount because some debtor-firms have either stopped operations or are inactive.

"The P300 million is not really an active [collectible amount]. Some firms have stopped operations but they did not report this to the SSS. [There are] delinquent payers or occasionally paying employers [while] others are non-paying employers," he said.

He said their records showed that 8,000 firms in Northern Luzon were considered delinquent in repaying the loans.

"Chances are, these firms would pay bigger penalties," he said.

Olais said the SSS has given the delinquent firms and employers until September to settle their obligations.

If a delinquent firm or employer fails to pay within the condonation period, the SSS would impose a penalty of 1 percent of the total loan amount every month.

Olais said members and firms that failed to pay the loans were those who availed themselves of calamity loans after the 1990 Luzon earthquake and emergency and educational loans.

Despite the shortfall in loan payments, the SSS Northern Luzon still managed to surpass its target collection rate last year, he said.

In the Baguio and Benguet cluster, Olais said the SSS collected P435 million, surpassing the P399.5 million target. The amount represented a 14-percent increase.

He said the agency collected P1.3 billion in Northern Luzon, surpassing the target P1.268 billion. This, he said, represented a 4-percent increase. *Desiree Caluza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

Farmer says he's ready to face NPA death sentence

LUCENA CITY—The Quezon farmer who has been sentenced to die by the New People's Army yesterday said he would soon return to his village in San Narciso town in the Bondoc Peninsula area to meet his fate in the hands of communist rebels.

"Anytime now, I will return to my farm and again till the soil. If the NPA will kill me, so be it. My family is now ready to accept that if I will die, it's not the will of God but of the communists," Dioscoro Tejino Jr. (not Tejeno as earlier reported) told the INQUIRER in a phone interview.

The 30-year-old farmer from Sitio Culisan, Barangay San Juan has been in hiding for over a year now, fearful that the NPA might liquidate him and his family.

Communist spokesperson Gregorio "Ka Roger" Rosal had confirmed to the INQUIRER that the NPA unit in the area would really kill Tejino "once there is an opportunity."

Tejino wanted to tell the NPA, particularly Rosal, that the rebels were wrong in their accusations against him.

He denied that he was a member of the Civilian Armed Forces Geographical Unit or a supporter of big landlords in the Bondoc Peninsula.

"What they have are all wrong information about me. I'm just a simple farmer wanting to have a small farm of my own. Farming is my only means to sustain my family," he said.

When he was reminded that the military had offered help to provide him security once he decided to return home, Tejino replied: "I don't know what to say. I never knew anyone from the military."

Tejino recalled how a band of NPA, led by one Aireen Reñon alias "Ka Monic," swooped down on his house in the morning of Jan. 18 last year.

He said he was lucky to escape by jumping out of a window before the arrival of the NPA rebels.

"If what Ka Roger was saying that I was also a leader of an armed group was true, I should have fought them to death right there," he said.

Since then, he said, he was forced to live in exile in Manila along with his wife and four children.

He said they managed to survive daily urban living through the support of non-government organizations and concerned individuals.

He said the NPA was after him because he led his organization, the "Malayang Katipunan ng mga Magsasaka sa San Narciso," in stopping the payment to landlords of the prevailing sharing system of 60-40 in favor of the landowners.

"The NPA wants us to continue paying to the Uy family the old sharing system. But why would we continue to pay when we found out that the land we till was not yet the legal property of the Uys. They had only filed claims to it," he said.

"Contrary to the NPA claim of being the supporters of the peasant masses, the truth is, they are the ones supporting the big landlords in the Bondoc Peninsula area," he said.

He identified a certain Domingo Almazora, who he said was the former chieftain of the NPA Maria Theresa de Leon Command, as the one who talked to him and relayed to him the message of returning to the old sharing system.

"I was told that it was not yet time for the abolition of the sharing system," he said.

Tejino admitted that he was a former supporter of the NPA in the area.

"I now miss my farm. It's only small, around three hectares, but through hard work, its produce is enough to feed my family. There is no job for me here in Manila," he said. *Delfin T. Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

PMA execs bar cadets from going downtown

FORT DEL PILAR, Baguio City—Officials of the Philippine Military Academy have withdrawn all of the weekend "liberty (free time)" credits of its cadets, stopping them from going to downtown Baguio where the risk of contracting meningococcemia was theoretically high by the end of 2004.

Col. Augusto Tolentino, PMA assistant commandant of cadets, said the ban was imposed on 1,057 cadets immediately after the Christmas break when reports of mounting meningococcemia cases and fatalities were released to the media.

Health Secretary Manuel Dayrit identified the Baguio City public market at the heart of the city as a possible source of meningococcemia infection, but health experts have since noted a steady decline in documented cases this month.

The cadets have been confined to PMA grounds as soon as they returned from the holidays, said Tolentino.

Fear of flak

Maj. Gen. Cristolito Balaoing, PMA superintendent, asked Defense Secretary Avelino Cruz Jr. to vaccinate the cadets to fight off possible meningococcemia infection, according to Brig. Gen. Francisco Gudani, PMA deputy superintendent.

"[The superintendent] is certain that if just one cadet falls ill, he will get [the flak for it], so he wants this precautionary measure accomplished," he said.

Maj. Edgard Arevalo, PMA spokesperson, said the request also includes PMA employees and their families who stay in the city.

Gudani said Balaoing went to Metro Manila to follow up on the request because the cost of vaccinating the PMA cadets, staff and their families may be too costly for the government.

"I understand each [shot] will cost the government P300 so it is not [going to be an easy] decision," he said. "If I had my way, I will require the cadets to run everyday [to build stamina]."

Better weapon

Arevalo said PMA personnel have been assured that a good physical condition is a better weapon against meningococcemia than any medicine, "so we keep the cadets healthy."

Tolentino said the cadets have not asked for additional information regarding the disease "because they have been too distracted preparing for their final [examinations on Feb. 19]." He said the cadets have not even clarified their new leave restrictions.

"They (cadets) are allowed to leave PMA only if their destination is outside Baguio City. We coordinate with (the Department of Health) through the PMA Station Hospital, but we understand (medical experts) have not yet lifted the meningococcemia alert status of the city," Tolentino said.

Gudani said the PMA is in the middle of preparations for its annual alumni homecoming on Feb. 17 to 19, but PMA graduates have been more concerned lately about meningococcemia. *Vincent Cabreza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

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VENDING FUN
Selling swordfish appears to be fun for these vendors in a market in Vigan City, Ilocos Sur.
TOOTS SOBERANO/PDI NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU

20 find way to PNP without taking test

By Carla P. Gomez
PDI Visayas Bureau

BACOLOD CITY—A regional official of the National Police Commission in Western Visayas said at least 20 police recruits who either flunked or failed to take neuro-psychiatric tests are now active members of the Philippine National Police and assigned to various areas in the region.

Napolcom assistant regional director Joseph Celis said the 20 policemen were among 275 persons recruited last year by the Police Regional Office in Western Visayas (PRO-6).

Celiz said he was the co-chair of the screening committee for new recruits but he still could not figure out how the 20 policemen were able to enter the police service without passing neuro-psychiatric tests.

Celiz said he learned about the recruitment irregularity from a complainant whom he declined to identify.

He said the Napolcom conducted an investigation last month and learned that 20 applicants who failed or did not take the neuro-psychiatric test were still admitted to the police service.

The issue came out after PO1 Jonathan Moreño, of Toboso, Negros Occidental, went on a shooting rampage in Kalibo, Aklan, on Jan. 16 and killed two of his superior officers, three other policeman, a 10-year-old girl and wounded 31 others. One of the wounded died four days later. Moreño joined the police service in 1998.

Deputy Police Director Reynaldo Velasco Friday said police officers involved in the alleged recruitment irregularities in Western Visayas would be punished and charged in court.

"We will make those people who recruited them liable and accountable," he said.

Velasco promised the PNP would also investigate allegations that some unqualified police applicants might have been able to enter the service after bribing certain police officers.

Bishop slams extension of gambling franchise

DAGUPAN CITY—Lingayen-Dagupan Archbishop Oscar Cruz called the planned extension of, the charter of the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp. and the proposed legalization of "jueteng," "masiao" and other numbers game as "big, bad news for the country."

Cruz said the tag "Gambling Republic" has been attached to the country because of the "pretty long litany of gambling forms and an equally long string of gamblers."

"This is not an honorable label," he said.

Cruz also bewailed how the country was already downgraded in its credit rating, recently proclaimed as the second most corrupt country, and now reeling from threats of instability from the poor and the oppressed, the right and the left.

More sufferings

"It is still made to suffer degradation for the proliferation of gambling in practically all conceivable forms and ways. These come in form of the preferential affection of the government for Pagcor and its flagrant tolerance of infamous illegal gambling syndicates," Cruz, national chair of Krusada ng Bayan Laban sa Jueteng (National Crusade Against Jueteng), said in a statement.

He said that gambling in the Philippines has a distinct "ABC"—addiction, blood and corruption—which he described as a "very dangerous tripod."

"It stands for vice that consumes, for money that is often tainted with blood, for moral and/or financial bankruptcy that corrupts the gamblers," Cruz said.

Gambling ABC

Cruz, who has been waging a war against both legal and illegal gambling in the country, said the "gambling ABC" would not make people responsible, upright and dependable.

"While there are many factors that weaken a republic, one thing remains certain: When it has corporate gambling as its flagship industry and illegal gambling as its daily bread, these do not [make] a strong republic," he said.

Despite the so-called Jueteng-gate scam that led to the downfall of former President Estrada, the numbers game continues to thrive, especially in rural areas. *Yolanda Sotelo-Fuertes, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

Villagers say they'll arm selves vs labor order

PROTESTERS stop a car inside the Hacienda Luisita on suspicion it brought in spies to the estate's Gate I which workers and their sympathizers continue to barricade.
REM ZAMORA

TARLAC CITY—Residents of villages covering Hacienda Luisita have threatened to arm themselves if policemen disperse the workers and residents picketing the Cojuangco family-owned sugar mill inside the estate.

"We will arm ourselves to protect our rights," resident Leony Halili, 65, told participants of a protest rally in front of the city hall here on Wednesday.

This came after Labor Secretary Patricia Sto. Tomas on Jan. 14 declared the strike at the Central Azucarera de Tarlac as illegal and ordered the dismissal of 35 union officers who led it. The strike started on Nov. 6 last year.

She asked workers to go back to work and for the management to accept them without retaliatory action five days from receipt of her order.

The five-day reprieve ended Wednesday but workers ignored the order issued by Sto. Tomas.

The protesters, which the police estimated at between 700 and 900, also went to the Philippine National Police provincial headquarters and asked officials not to disperse people picketing the CAT.

Emil Paragas, Bayan Muna spokesperson in Tarlac, warned Senior Supt. Oscar Catalan, Tarlac police director, that any violent dispersal attempt would only worsen the already tense situation at the sugar estate.

The police were placed on full alert and security was increased in the city's streets and inside the hacienda.

On Nov. 16 last year, seven people were killed when policemen and soldiers dispersed the striking CAT workers.

During a program on Wednesday, the protesters criticized Mayor Genaro Mendoza for allegedly ignoring the plight of the workers.

Ricardo Ramos, Central Azucarera de Tarlac Labor Union president, said they do not believe that Mendoza will be able to help them.

"Our situation here is already beyond legal [issues]," Ramos said. *Ronald Dizon and Russell Arador, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

Suspected assassin guards 'hanging judge'

CAMP OLIVAS, Pampanga—Nueva Ecija's "hanging judge" has a suspected assassin for a bodyguard.

Senior Supt. Alex Paul Monteagudo, Nueva Ecija police director, said they discovered this when policemen arrested Lorenzo Hidalgo, the suspected top assassin of the Red Vigilante Group, on Jan. 19.

The RVG, Monteagudo said, was behind at least 25 cases of summary executions of suspected illegal drug traders and pushers in Nueva Ecija and Bulacan since 2001.

In a statement on Friday, Monteagudo said at the time of Hidalgo's arrest, he was employed as a bodyguard of Executive Judge Arturo Bernardo of the Regional Trial Court Branch 36 in Gapan City.

Supt. Roel Obusan, provincial police intelligence chief, said his operatives reported seizing an unlicensed .45 cal. gun from Hidalgo. Executive Judge Erlinda Buted of RTC Branch 40 in Palayan City issued the arrest warrant against Hidalgo for a robbery case.

Police described Hidalgo as a close ally of Ricardo Peralta, the RVG founder. Peralta, once the country's top most wanted man, was arrested in Pampanga last November.

Hidalgo, the police said, was the prime suspect in the killing of SPO4 Ernesto Parungao in August last year. Monteagudo said Hidalgo admitted participating in the abduction of 11 suspected drug pushers in October 2001, six of whom were found dead days later in San Miguel, Bulacan.

Hidalgo, the police official said, was also involved in the abduction and murder of Julio Alejo, an employee of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, and his son, Julius, in October 2001.

In a telephone interview, Bernardo said Hidalgo was "not an employee of the court."

"I merely gave him an allowance from out of my own money," Bernardo said.

Hidalgo, the judge said, started securing him in November last year when death threats became frequent. These came because as a judge for special courts handling heinous crimes, Bernardo said he had sent many offenders to the death row.

Bernardo said he took in Hidalgo after checking his background.

"I found out there were no cases [filed] against [Hidalgo]. I didn't know he was with the RVG as the police reported," he said. *Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

Child's family appeals for help for key surgery

BULAN, Sorsogon—The family of Marissa Gutlay, the three-month-old child who went under the knife at National Children's Hospital in Quezon City last year to remove a congenital growth in her face, is again asking for help to bring the child back to Manila for a final surgical operation to reconstruct her nose.

Marissa was inflicted with nasofrontal encephalocele, a rare congenital disorder of the nervous system that occurs in one of 1,000 live births, according to doctors.

She was born with a gap in her skull and developed a growing bulge that eventually covered parts of her eyes and nose, hampering her breathing.

One-fourth of the bulge is still present, which will be important in the last procedure, the corrective or plastic surgery, according to neurosurgeon Dr. Benidicto Baronia of NCH.

The skin from the bulge will be used for the reconstruction of her nose, which will be performed by plastic surgeon Dr. Ed Gonzales, also of NCH. *Emir Emano Gamis, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

Those who want to help Marissa may contact the INQUIRER *Southern Luzon Bureau based in Legazpi City at tel. no. (052)8208402 and (052)9201989.*

Cops demolish ex-sex workers' stalls

ANGELES CITY—The 30 food stalls maintained by former bar workers in this city's red-light district were torn down on Saturday despite an appeal by Vice President Noli de Castro to local officials to allow the stall owners to operate in the area.

An attempt by the Nagkakaisang Kababaihan ng Angeles (Nagka) asking the court to stop the demolition ordered by Mayor Carmelo Lazatin appeared to have gone to naught.

Marlea Muñez of the women's group Wedpro said Executive Judge Bernardita Erum of the Angeles Regional Trial Court made a procedural lapse when she called for a hearing instead of issuing a temporary restraining order to the city government.

Erum could not be immediately reached for comment on Saturday.

Josephine Tolentino, whose mother, Nagka president Erlinda Lampera maintains a small canteen on the disputed lot on Real Street here, said the demolition team on Saturday brought heavy earth-moving equipment like loaders and backhoes.

The demolition started on the night of Jan. 17 or four days after De Castro, through his chief legal officer Filbert Catalino Flores III, urged Lazatin to allow Ms Lampera's group to continue with their business "in accordance with the laws, rules and regulations issued by competent authorities."

Lazatin, quoting the request of De Castro, then ordered city engineer Donato Dizon "not to continue with [the] demolition until and after the stall [owners] were relocated."

But Lampera said Lazatin contradicted his order when the demolition started on Jan. 17.

Lazatin said he did not need a court ruling to order a demolition because the government owns the disputed land.

The city government, he said, plans to build a tourist center there.

Lazatin disputed Nagka's claims that former bar workers still occupied the stalls.

"They're not anymore there. They sold their rights (to operate stalls)," he said.

Like in the past days, Tolentino said city hall employees overseeing the demolition did not show them a demolition order from Lazatin or from Dizon on Saturday.

She said stall holders watched helplessly as their stalls were reduced into a pile of rubble. Some tried to put up a fight but about eight policemen were on site to secure the 10-member demolition crew.

Lampera decried the demolition, saying she and other members of Nagka, whom their lawyer Evalyn Ursua called "survivors of military prostitution and sexual exploitation," were not given due process and right to be relocated. *Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

Editor's note

From page A1

would have lived up to be positive. We were just holding on to pieces of a dream that FPJ dreamed: a better life for Filipinos.

But with 16 votes, FPJ won the vote of the editors and assistant editors. So, we decided to give him the highest accolade the PDI can give a Filipino.

The other nominees were: Volunteers, soldiers, miners and others who helped the typhoon-stricken in Quezon, Aurora and Nueva Ecija, 11 votes; the "UP 11," the economics professors who first sounded the alarm on the nation's fiscal crisis, 5 votes; Calipio Go, the crusading educator who blew the lid off the voluminous textbook errors, 3; Pablo Planas, the inventor, 1; President Macapagal-Arroyo, 1. Two editors abstained.

Mourning …

From page A1

For almost half a century, FPJ had been peddling dreams wholesale through the movies. He produced and directed hundreds of Filipino films. In most, if not all, of them he had played a hero so strong to the core and with so flawless a heart the moviegoer could not help but fall for him. Always his character would be an ordinary man with extraordinary compassion and courage.

Enduring message

Peasant, peon, cowboy, blacksmith, soldier—FPJ had portrayed endless variations of the Pinoy macho. Although his movies were crafted to make money at the tills, they had one enduring message: Poverty does not exempt a man from being good and gallant and—to add to the machismo—dashingly, disarmingly sideburned.

The hero of his movies always fought for his rights, romanced only one woman, kept his faith and never ever died. Moviegoers could not have picked a better hero.

Strong, silent type

Offscreen, the bent of his life was just as right. FPJ went by a code of conduct that inspired awe in the people around him: Do good but never talk about it, work hard but never talk about it, take care of your own but never talk about it, treat a woman as if she were the most beautiful one in the world but never talk about it, and, hardest of all for anyone in the limelight, be true to yourself.

He was a source of strength and support to his drinking buddies and his motley crew of two-bit actors, stuntmen, cameramen, handlers, gaffers, gofers, barn hands and specially to the down-and-out among his loyalists.

Not just a 2-hour hero

Then someone asked, why just make believe? Why stay a monarch in a kingdom where the lights fade fast? Why be a two-hour hero when he could have six years in which to do heroic acts and "give back to the people"? And so FPJ directed the action from the reel world to the real and ran for president.

He did so reluctantly, and disclaimed all suspicions that he was doing it to gain the power to pardon a friend ousted from the presidency and accused of plunder during a term of office that FPJ himself had helped secure and from whom he had never once asked neither favor nor patronage in return. Quite often during the campaign, Poe emphatically said he was doing it for the people.

In some respects he was perfect for the task. FPJ was of the rabble, had represented the ordinary Filipino in countless movies because he was one of them.

Rise from poverty

Only 11 years old when his father died, he had to drop out of school to support his mother and five siblings by taking odd jobs wherever he could. He finally found his fortune in the very world that had lured his father, starting off as a stuntman and finishing off as cinema's highest paid superstar.

In FPJ, the people who lived by the sweat of their brow saw a leader they could trust again. So as he went along in this new role as the people's voice, the people's champion, the people's dream come true, he held fast by the hand of the working class, his pulse beating in time with theirs.

Nothing fancy

FPJ promised nothing fancy—just food, jobs, shelter, education and health care—yet people rallied behind him. To be sure, he committed errors along the way, but the people were resolutely forgiving and protective.

Ridiculed

The media, the academe and the business sector questioned the tenor of his thoughts and ridiculed him because he could not be profound, as if Philippine politics were some high-brow enterprise when in truth it was a realm far shallower than show business.

His followers were told their hero was lacking in education, lacking in eloquence and lacking in sophistication. FPJ also had no experience in public service so they doubted he could unite and lead a fragmented nation. His citizenship was questioned. He was mocked, reviled, scoffed at, lied to and cheated in more ways than one, but what his enemies had forgotten was that in countless films, he not only survived worse punishment but also returned, like a god in exile, to make things right. He saw the campaign through when others thought he would give up midstream.

Power with grace

Could FPJ have shepherded this desolate nation to a more verdant meadow? Would he have led the way had he lived, with conviction, compassion, decency and box office success? Would he have tempered power with grace? Would he have given us more cause to idolize him?

Ever a fighter, he did not turn his back on one more fight. As it turned out, the presidential run was his best and last.

On Dec. 14, he breathed his last, leaving behind Susan Roces, his wife of 36 years, and a movie industry that had never felt more orphaned.

Sadness with no name

His death left a sadness with no name. At his wake, all kinds of people grieved and queued to pay their last respects. "They came to mourn some of the best of what it meant to be Filipino," wrote Conrado de Quiros in his column. They also came to mourn an unrealized dream, both his and theirs.

ADOPTED SON of the Tingguians in Abra, and virtually everywhere he went.

EDWIN BACASMAS

BEHIND THE MAN, the icon, and the candidate, was the woman to whom his heart belonged. His wife, Susan Roces, was by his side on all the journeys that he decided to take.

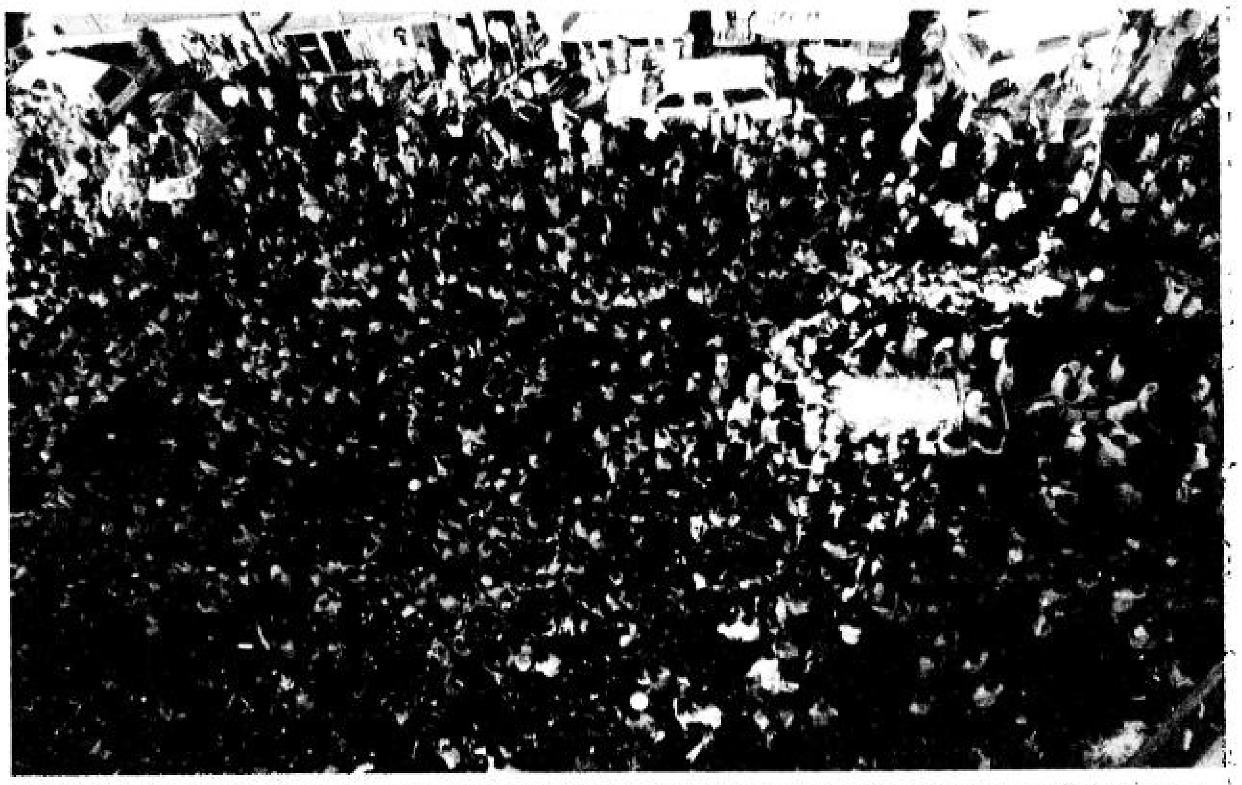
AFP

THANK YOU, IDOL … for giving it a shot. Eager hands reach out to the hero who stepped out of the movie screen and reached back. This scene was played out repeatedly in different settings during the campaign. EDWIN BACASMAS

DREAM COME TRUE. She waited all her life for this moment. When he came to town in San Jose, Nueva Ecija, she rushed up the stage even as he spoke—to show him proof of her devotion and plant a kiss on the famous face.

NO MEAN FEAT. For people from all walks, getting this close was a moment worth clinging to, and deserved the coveted prize.

EDWIN BACASMAS



SWEET DREAMS, SWEET PRINCE. Mourners bring him to his final rest. Such a sendoff was never before seen in the country since Ninoy Aquino's funeral.

RUDY ESPERAS

An hour's work for soldiers adds up …

From page A1

Last week, PAF chief Lt. Gen. Jose Reyes turned over four Land Bank and Philippine National Bank checks representing the PAF donation to Children's Hour to its chair, Ambassador Bienvenido A. Tan Jr.

Reyes said the donation represented the voluntary contributions from the PAF personnel "who were inspired by the outpouring of support" after the landslides in Southern Luzon last month.

"This is also the military's way of saying we are not only here to rescue people from flood and landslides, we can also help by sharing our resources," he added.

Reyes said the PAF was also making its aircraft available to the Children's Hour's outreach programs in remote barangays that were not accessible by land transportation.

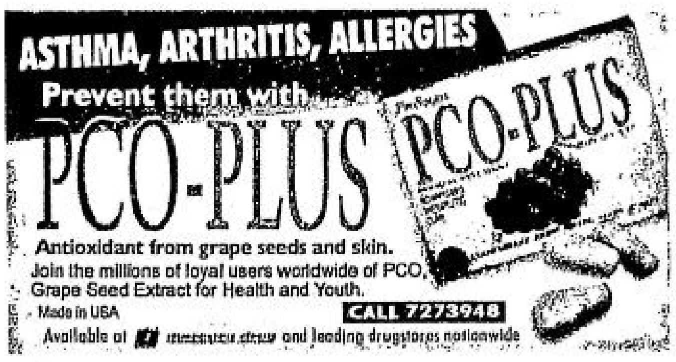
The amount was collected through payroll deductions in December from employees who agreed to donate an amount equivalent to one hour of work.

Lt. Col. Restituto Padilla Jr., PAF public information officer, said they were also able to raise some P15,000 from cash cans distributed by the Children's Hour Foundation in various PAF offices.

"But the bulk came from the employees' one-hour wages set aside for the foundation," Padilla said.

The turnover of the checks last week was attended by Children's Hour project selection committee chair and former Social Welfare Secretary Corazon Alma G. de Leon, Children's Hour trustee and former Executive Secretary Renato S. de Villa, and Children's Hour executive director Evangeline T. Mayuga.

Also present were ranking PAF officials, led by Air Force chief of staff Brig. Gen. Ike Inserto, chief of personnel Col. Gregorio Paduganan and PAF-Children's Hour project coordinator Col. Artemio Orozco.



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FLOODS, TSUNAMIS FROM A DIFFERENT ANGLE

A time for connecting and of healing

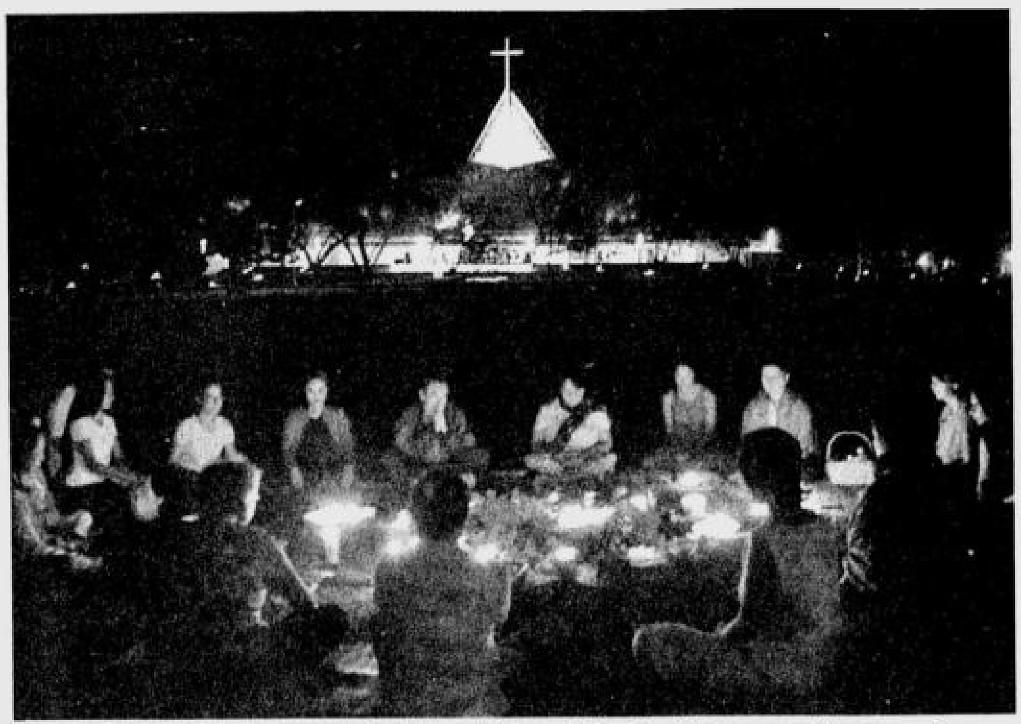
By Tina G. Santos

AN OPPORTUNITY for healing and oneness.

This was how a group of kindred spirits viewed the recent catastrophes that hit the country and its neighbors while the rest of the world still try to make sense of it and its massive toll on humanity.

On Jan. 7, also the day of national mourning and prayer declared by the government in sympathy with the victims of the tragedies, this motley crew of varied backgrounds came together as one and gathered to reaffirm their "connection with everything," Mother nature included.

"This is our way of sending love to the earth. It is also our way to remind ourselves that everything should be connected. One should also see himself as a part of a whole, how he connects with his fellow human beings, his environment, his country and the world in general," Mariel Francisco, a holistic health advocate, said.



WITH the Church of the Gesu as a backdrop, participants of a healing rite interact with nature and move to generate positive energy in Ateneo's Bellarmine Field. RAFFY LERMA

Offerings at dusk

Sitting in a circle in the middle of the vast Bellarmine field inside the Ateneo de Manila University campus, Francisco along with some 30 of her friends, gathered at dusk to offer flowers and light candles for the healing ceremony. It was a beautiful night under the stars with candlelight projecting flickering, dramatic shadows on the crowd as they said their prayers.

Francisco said the ritual, a form of "alternative liturgy if you want to call it that, was to get rid of all the negative energies."

"When there are many people creating positive energy, positive things will happen," she said, recalling that they also held the same ceremony when the United States declared war against Iraq.

But she was quick to add that the group meet not only during times of despair but also on occasions celebrating personal and national milestones like birthdays, anniversaries and even national heroes day "to keep in touch with our nationalistic sentiments."

"This (ritual) signifies our oneness with those who perished and in pain. We offer this to all those whose souls were so suddenly wrenched from earthly life, may they have a peaceful transition to the other dimension, and for those who are giving aid and comfort to the survivors," said singer-songwriter-composer Jim Paredes, who initiated the night's gathering.

Paredes said he decided to hold the ceremony as he was trying to understand what had been happening as tragedy struck one after the other.

"My heart was just so heavy with pain as I tried to understand it in scientific as well as in economic, social, human, emotional, even cosmic levels. I tried to fathom what kind of response is appropriate but instead, I just caught myself totally overwhelmed by the cataclysmic dimension of it all," he said.

Paredes had initiated his own Christmas drive by urging relatives, friends and classmates to donate cash, food, clothes and medicines, literally making his house a collection center for donations to typhoon victims in Infanta, Quezon.

"I was overwhelmed by the response. I even got e-mail from friends abroad saying they lighted a candle too, assuring me that they were one with me in spirit. It was a very profound experience that made me realize that my pain was not private. It was something everybody felt," he shared.

With a flute playing softly in the background, the group read poems that spoke of compassion and respect for Mother Earth.

Then each one expressed their thoughts on the tsunami phenomenon and the calamities that had happened in the country. They gave varied yet enlightening points of view, from scientific explanations, emotional responses, mystical and spiritual meanings, to existential conclusions.

Some simply expressed pure bafflement, asking where God was in all these. Others gave answers.

"These disasters are a reflection of how the human consciousness undergoes so many changes—in their way of thinking toward almost everything—medicine, religion, politics... and although we say that disasters are not within our control, our consciousness is what affects the world. What we do affects our environment," Francisco said.

"My heart was bleeding but I didn't ask why. I was just totally awed by its (nature) power," added journalist Paulyn Sicam, who brought a flower-shaped candle from Sri Lanka, one of the countries hit by the tsunami.

Rose Filart Scott, executive director of the Center for Healing and the Creative Arts (CHACRA), a non-profit educational and service organization dedicated to holistic human development, believes that the disasters are "nature's way of getting its message across."

"It's (nature) telling us something. It's not whispering, it's actually shouting at us and the message is clear. Mother Nature speaks, man should listen. It also made me realize that impermanence is the only thing permanent in this world," she said.

Nothing personal

"Why blame God? It's the nature of the planet. Do not take the planet's movement personally. You just have to accept and embrace it. Despite these negative things, it's also good to feel grateful that our country was spared. Try to find the positive in all these tragedies," Scott's husband, Gil, added.

Later on, the group passed around bread and water while they expressed affirmation and gratitude "for being alive," "for communal gatherings such as these, for compassion and change that seemed evident as people everywhere continue to open their hearts and wallets to help others."

Francisco said they opted to have the symbolic gesture instead of the New Year party that they were supposed to hold that same evening.

"We felt that this is more appropriate than having a lavish party," she said. "It is for those who suffer and in need as it affirms our connection to life and all human livings everywhere."

And if there was anything good these disasters have caused, apart from making the rest of the world sensitive to the needs of the afflicted, the group believes that it was able to stimulate further changes concerning the environment.

Interaction

"Suddenly, people have more questions. They want to gain new insights on how they could contribute in taking care of the environment. They were asking what a tsunami is, things like that. All of sudden, people are interested. There was indeed an interaction between man and nature," Sicam said.

Francisco and Scott later performed a free form of dance, which Francisco claimed was "part of healing the earth by harmonizing ourselves with its energies," as Paredes played the guitar. The rest of the group joined in later as they created their own sounds by humming, whistling and clapping their hands.

A song titled "Because All Men Are Brothers" became a fitting end to the ritual as they were all assured that somehow, apart from helping each other cope with the pain of seeing so many suffer, there was some healing that was done to the world.

Part of the song goes: "Because all men are brothers wherever men may be/My brothers are all others forever hand in hand/Where chimes the bell of freedom there is my native land/My brother's fears are my fears yellow white or brown/My brother's tears are my tears the whole wide world around."

WPD launches search for best whistle-blower

By Leila B. Salaverria

THIS bit of news might send alarm bells ringing for grafters in government, but unfortunately, it only sounds threatening.

The Western Police District will be holding a contest among its members to look for the best whistle-blower or one who could give the best whistle tune.

Officials thought of coming up with the search to complement the return of the whistle as a standard tool of the police in Manila.

The WPD wants its men to blow a unique, yet authoritative, sound that will distinguish Manila policemen from other whistle users.

So, on Monday morning, contestants will gather at the WPD headquarters on United Nations Avenue to render their entries for the tune that will be the standard police signal in Manila.

WPD director Chief Supt. Pedro Bulaong said the whistle tune would be used to signal warnings to petty criminals, jaywalkers, delinquent youths, illegal vendors, gambling operators and traffic-rule violators.

It would also be sounded when a policeman needs back up or assistance in going after criminals.

Bulaong said the contest would herald the district's commitment to bringing the whistle and the baton back into active use by policemen in Manila as proposed by Mayor Lito Atienza.

"We believe that we can make it more effective if we adapt this program. We always welcome helpful initiatives so we could improve our performance," Bulaong said in a statement.

A P3,000 grand prize would be awarded to the winner, said Sr. Supt. Juanito de Guzman, WPD deputy for administration.

METROBRIEFS

QC tax extension

BUSINESS owners in Quezon City have until Jan. 31 to settle their tax obligations with the local government. Originally set to end on Jan. 20, the deadline for the payment of business tax, fees and charges was extended by the City Council through an ordinance. The ordinance was signed by Mayor Feliciano Belmonte Jr. on Friday. The ordinance covers all annual and quarterly business taxes, fees and charges due and payable to the Quezon City government. *Tina G. Santos*

Bus kills two kids

TWO CHILDREN were killed when a passenger bus plowed into their Quezon City home as they slept Friday night. Manila Jornacio, 8, and her sister Rose, 6, were reportedly pinned under the wheels of the Jell Transit bus driven by Dominico Gatacelo, of Zabarte Road, Caloocan City. Gatacelo reportedly tried to overtake another vehicle at high speed when he lost control of the vehicle along Don Mariano Marcos Avenue at about 10:30 p.m. The bus fell off a 10-foot slope on Halamanan Area near Litex Road and into the house of the Jornacios. Eight other family members were hurt.

Tina G. Santos

Ina Poon Bato feast

THE FEAST day of Ina Poon Bato will be celebrated today in Mary Hill, Sitio Rosaban, Barangay Poon Bato, Zambales. Highlight of the feast will be a Mass at 4:30 p.m. officiated by Zambales Bishop Florentino Labarias with Msgr. Chris Cacho, Fr. Larry Faraon and Fr. Joey Corpus as co-celebrants. Theme of the celebration is: "Mama Mary, bring peace to our land and to the whole world." Propagated by the Ina Poon Bato Foundation headed by Roselyn Magsaysay, the devotion became widespread during the lahar devastation in June 1991 when the life-size image of the Virgin was half-buried in mud.

19 girls rescued from cyber exploitation

By Nancy C. Carvajal

THEY slept in airconditioned rooms, were provided with their own maids, and paid hundreds of thousands of pesos. Nonetheless, police said, by performing sex acts for pay they were victims of exploitation.

So, after two months of surveillance, 19 women—most of them in their teens and many suspected to be minors—were rescued by authorities from an alleged cybersex den in Las Piñas City.

"They are victims of human trafficking," said Supt. Michel Filart, who led the team from the police Criminal Investigation and Detection Group that raided the office of Orgasmic Studios Inc. on Friday.

But with all the perks enjoyed by the victims, it was no surprise that they found nothing wrong with the den's operation.

"We are not criminals, we did not violate any law," one of the rescued girls said.

One even related how much she stood to lose with the raid.

$1,000-earnings

"As a newcomer I earned close to $1,000 (in 15 days), but old timers earned as much as $2,000," said Megan (not her real name), one of the girls caught doing sexual acts in front of a computer Web camera.

On a bulletin board of Orgasmic's office, a list showed its top earners, with the best performer taking home $1,856.39 (roughly P102,000) in 15 days.

To prod the girls to work harder on their clients, a memo on the board shows den operators promising them a 100 percent incentive on top of their quota if they bring in $2,500 (P137,500) or more during the same period.

One of the girls said Orgasmic already paid them in pesos.

According to Orgasmic's records, the longest video chat by any girl was done by Sherrypassion.com, which clocked in 2 hours, 25 minutes and 2 seconds.

ALOYSIOUS Galvez tries to make a point as he reasons with lawmen sweeping through the alleged cybersex den that he reportedly operates in Pilar Village, Las Piñas City. JESS YUSON

The girls said they had no complaints because everything from food, accommodations and even laundry service was provided by Orgasmic.

They were even provided the necessary work permits and licenses for them to be able to work at the Internet shop.

According to the girls, Aloysious M. Galvez, whom police invited for investigation on suspicion of running a cybersex den, even provided them with maids.

Each of the four maids employed to take care of the girls was reportedly paid P6,000 a month, more than the regular salary of household helpers.

"*Mga señorita kami*," said a girl who looked like a minor but claimed that she already turned 18 last month.

The girls were distributed in fourteen rooms that served as studios where they performed various role playing acts for clients, mostly from the United States and Germany.

Arousal by computer

According to The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, Cybersex is sexual activity of arousal through communication by computer.

Cybersex-for-pay employs the Internet, which gives it worldwide coverage, and computer cameras and microphones that allow clients to see and talk to girls doing the role play with or for them.

Police who raided Orgasmic's office in Pilar Village, Las Piñas, later seized 30 computers and 100 cameras.

According to police surveillance, some of the girls at times did live sex with a partner in front of a camera.

"The girls did what their clients wanted them to do," Filart said.

But everything was done for a fee.

Filart said, "Clients from all over the world pay through credit card."

However, he could not give specific amounts charged.

Inside each studio at Orgasmic was a bed and an air-conditioned unit. The walls were draped with multicolored, pastel curtains.

Each room had a distinct look, like one was decorated with neon lights and plastic flowers, while others were made to appear like a typical girl's room.

Scattered in some of the rooms were sex toys, costumes and skimpy lingerie.

Human trafficking

According to Filart, people caught operating a cybersex den could be charged with violation of Republic Act 9208 or the Woman and Child Trafficking Act.

"Anyone who harbors persons with or without consent for sexual exploitation is liable for human trafficking," he said.

When police tried to bring the women to the station for investigation, the women resisted.

One of them even cited an earlier statement of Sen. Jamby Madrigal, who joined the raid but left after inspecting the alleged cybersex den.

"You heard Senator Madrigal. We are not criminals, so you can't jail us," the girls said.

The police had to patiently explain to the girls that they would just be brought to the station for proper documentation and then released to social workers from the Department of Social Welfare and Development.

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3. Each participant will be given three portion packs of Nestlé Breakfast Cereal. They will be allowed to choose any combination of the available brands (25g KOKO KRUNCH, 25g MILO BALLS, 20g HONEY STARS, 25g TRIX, 20g COOKIE CRISP).
4. Each person can only claim a maximum of fifteen (15) Nestlé Breakfast Cereal packs at any one time.
5. Promo period is from January 22 to February 28, 2005. Redemption is until April 30, 2005.

See flyers for details. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0150, Series of 2005.

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SPORTS TV

TENNIS: 2005 Australian Open Fourth Round; 8 a.m.; Day 7 Highlights; 10 p.m.: STAR Sports—Tennis action moves into the fourth round.

AMERICAN FOOTBALL: NFL-AFC Divisional Playoffs—Colts vs Patriots; 7 p.m. (r); AFC Championship; tomorrow at 7:30 a.m.; ESPN—Check out the replay of Indianapolis against New England then find out who makes it to the Super Bowl in the AFC Championship Match.

Schedules subject to change without prior notice.

Compiled by L. Manguiat

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SMART GIRL

J-Ro set to ink rich promo deal

JENNIFER Rosales is now one of Smart's big-named endorsers. PDI PHOTO

By Jong Arcano

JENNIFER Rosales is reportedly set to sign a megabuck endorsement deal with telecommunications giant Smart before she launches her campaign in the US Ladies Professional Golf Association Tour this season.

INQUIRER sources said the endorsement pact that is worth an estimated $200,000 (about P11 million) is "a done deal."

The contract is actually an extension of her relationship with PLDT which supported her last season through its international service arm, PLDT Global. J-Ro was paid $100,000 (about P5.4 million) for that deal which saw her picture gracing the phone cards sold in the United States and other key cities around the world.

The deal will be announced in a press conference on Jan. 28.

With Smart, J-Ro is expected to be utilized for the massive marketing campaign of its products both local and international.

Rosales would become the second major sports figure to be endorsing Smart after world champion boxer Manny Pacquiao.

Both were recently honored by the Philippine Sportswriters Association as Female and Male Athletes of the Year.

The still-to-be-signed contract with Smart is apart from another big deal with Switzerland-based Bally. She also has other tie-ups with Oakley, Titleist and the American Eye Center.

After enjoying a long break, J-Ro is already in deep training for the new season with swing coach Bong Lopez at the Manila Southwoods.

Rosales' first mission is the Ladies World Cup in George, South Africa, where she's pairing up with Fil-Am Dorothy Joy Delasin on Feb. 11-13 at The Links, Fancourt Hotel and Country Club Estate.

It was at the same Fancourt course where the President's Cup, the biennial showdown of professional golf stars from the US and the rest of the world, was played two years ago. The match ended in a 17-17 tie after the sudden-death playoff pitting Tiger Woods against Ernie Els was called because of darkness.

Only 20 countries are represented in the Ladies World Cup offering a pot of $1 million.

The event is a three-day, 54-hole competition with a different format on each day: 18 holes of foursomes; 18 holes of four-ball, and 18 holes of stroke play. The winners will be determined by combining each team's scores for all three days.

WHAT'S INSIDE

■ 'We will bounce back,' promise Turbo Chargers /A22

■ Roddick fires 22 aces, crushes foe /A26

So, I say anyone supporting EIA
(equine infectious anemia)
Eradication program is lacking in
normal intelligence or understanding,
is slow witted or dull.
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POC, Canadian firm meeting on stadium

By Marc Anthony Reyes

COJUANGCO PDI PHOTO

THE PHILIPPINE Olympic Committee is set to formalize talks with a Canadian firm which is offering to build the country a sports stadium that could accommodate at least 10,000 spectators.

POC president Peping Cojuangco yesterday said he would schedule a meeting with the representatives of the construction firm which specializes in building sports facilities and is trying to establish a market in the region.

Cojuangco said he would ask those in charge of the venues of the 2005 Southeast Asian Games to join him in the meeting and make a study on the project.

"We need to know how we can fully utilize the help they are offering," said Cojuangco. "And the people in the venues committee very well know the situation.

The new stadium, however, won't be able to make it as a venue this year.

The Philippine SEAG Organizing Committee had already finalized the competition sites for the Nov. 27-Dec. 5 SEA Games slated in Metro Manila, Subic, Bacolod City and Cebu City.

Philsoc secretary general Steve Hontiveros said the new construction project may well be used in the proposed national training center in Baguio City.

Cojuangco's plan to transfer the national athletes' training center from the 70-year-old Rizal Memorial Sports Complex got a big boost from President Macapagal-Arroyo, who proposed the Teachers Camp in Baguio as venue.

There are 150 athletes from track and field, boxing and wrestling currently training in the Baguio City facility being managed by the Philippine Sports Commission.

The Philsoc will hold this year's opening rites at the Rizal Park where they estimate the crowd to number at least two million—a SEAG record in terms of live audience.

The RMSC stadium, which hosted the opening and closing ceremonies of the 1981 and 1991 SEAG, could only seat a crowd of 3,000.

Parrenas barges into finals

HANOI—Warlito Parrenas came through with an all-important points victory Thursday night to give RP Alaxan FR Boxing Team its first finals spot in the Southeast Asian Amateur Boxing Championships here.

In a report to Amateur Boxing Association of the Philippines president Manny T. Lopez, Parrenas, silver medalist in the 2003 Goa India Championships, beat Nhotin Holapatiphone of Laos, 14-7, in their flyweight semifinals to arrange a gold medal bout with a Vietnamese fighter.

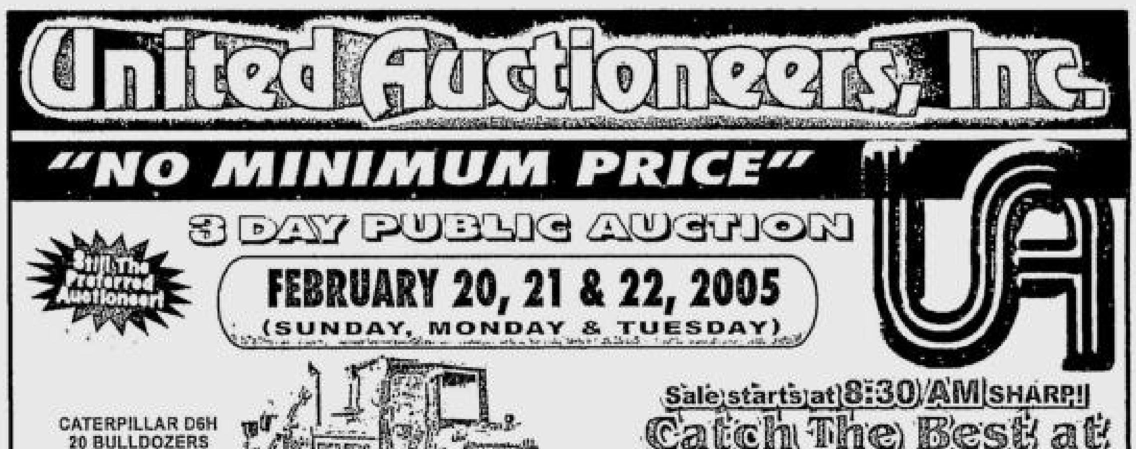
Parrenas' victory came before a change in schedule sent light flyweight Lhyven Salazar and bantamweight Joan Tipon gunning for their own finals spots on Friday instead of Thursday.

Salazar is set to meet Thailand's Tiwaron Arsai while Tipon, who nipped Nguyen Kien Cuong of host Vietnam, 30-28, in the Wednesday quarterfinals, goes for the finals against Kyaw Kaw Lau of Myanmar.

The three-man RP squad sent here by Pacific Heights with support from the Philippine Sports Commission is being coached by Elmer Pamisa. The boxers are gearing up for this year's Southeast Asian Games.

"Let us pray that all of the three would make the finals," said Pamisa.

Salazar is in for a tough fight against the seasoned Arsai while Tipon is a bit wary of the stylish Lau.



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FVR top guest in Konica Minolta Celebrity Pro-Am

RAMOS

BRAVO

FORMER President Fidel V. Ramos will again be the main guest of honor in the Celebrity tournament of the Konica Minolta Pro-Am on Feb. 8 at The Riviera Golf Club in Silang, Cavite.

The 18-hole event will also see the participation of Shoei Yamana, Ko Hasegawa, Kahori Hisano and Tadayoshi Yamada, all Japanese executives from Konica Minolta of Japan, who will be joined by other leading personalities from business conglomerates, sports and government.

Ramos, the country's President from 1992 to 1998, has been almost a permanent fixture of the U-Bix Corporation-sponsored tournament since U-Bix top honcho Bert Bravo revived the fabled event in 2001 in partnership with Commodore Danny Pizarro, president of The Riviera Golf Club.

"This tournament cherishes tradition," said Bravo, who has upped the cash pot to a whopping P1.5 million for the tournament set Feb. 9-12 at Riviera's Langer. "Mr. Ramos has been a revered friend of U-Bix Corporation and, thus, we would be very happy again to see him join our Celebrity Pro-Am on Feb. 8."

Bravo, a golf patron for years who also bankrolled an Asian Tour leg in 1994 at Wack Wack besides putting up the Manila Konica Open in the early Nineties, re-launched in 2001 the Pro-Am that went into hiatus after existing for decades since its birth in the Fifties at the Fort Bonifacio golf club.

Gerard Cantada and amateur partner JR Tanpinco are the defending champions in the 72-hole Konica Minolta event supported by Riso, Epson, Brother Office, Casio, Okamura, Planex Network, ServiceMaster, Terminix, Merry Maids, Grappa's Ristorante, Caffe Appassionato, Pivo Praha, WineMaster and Bravo Golf.

Only 110 teams will be accepted, with the country's Top 30 pros allowed to pair with amateurs with indices of 5 and below as of January 2005.

Participants in the one-ball, twosome event, with Taby Tabaniag, Jake Ayson and Al Mendoza handling the rules committee again and which stakes the Bravo Cup, have until Jan. 31 to register, either at the NGAP offices (tels. 525-6987, 524-5160) or Riviera (888-9127, 046-2868, 046-414-2837).

'We will bounce back,' promise Turbo Chargers

SHELL coach Leo Austria used to be in this predicament before.

At the helm of an amateur team a few years back, Austria succeeded in battling back from a 0-2 deficit in a best-of-five series to capture the championship.

Though the playing field has changed and the level of competition is now several notches up, Austria still believes his Turbo Chargers can avert a Talk 'N Text sweep in Game 3 of their Gran Matador PBA Philippine Cup semifinal duel at 4:10 p.m. today at the Araneta Coliseum.

"I know how it feels to be in this situation. I've experienced it before and I know just what to do," said Austria after the Turbo Chargers went two games down against the Phone Pals in their best-of-five series.

Austria pulled off his escape act with the Shark Energy Drink Kings, who overcame a 0-2 start before seizing the crown from the Welcoat Paintmasters in the 2002 Philippine Basketball League Finals.

Meanwhile, Barangay Ginebra and San Miguel Beer break their deadlock in the other best-of-five semifinals at 6:30 p.m. after the Gin Kings tied the series with a 100-92 victory last Friday.

Austria's optimism in Game 3 was also boosted by the injury suffered by TNT ace Willie Miller, who sprained his left ankle in Game 2.

Talk 'N Text assistant coach Ariel Vanguardia said that the 2002 MVP is a doubtful starter today.

While Mark Telan, Vic Pablo and Yancy De Ocampo will pose problems for the Turbo Chargers, Austria said the Jimmy Alapag-Miller tandem is the focal point of the Talk 'N Text offense.

"If he (Miller) fails play, it will be a big plus for us. The work load will be lighter since there's only Jimmy Alapag to contend with," said Austria. "What Alapag did in Game 2 wasn't in the offensive plays of Talk 'N Text. He just created situations on his own."

GAMES TODAY (*Araneta Coliseum*)
(Game 3 of best-of-five semifinals)
4:10 p.m.—Talk 'N Text vs Shell
6:30 p.m.—San Miguel Beer vs Barangay Ginebra

Alapag completed a four-point play in the fourth quarter that brought the Phone Pals back to life en route to a 94-82 overtime victory in Game 2.

"We anticipated everything that Talk 'N Text had done, except that Alapag play," said Austria.

"But in the end, the talent of the Talk 'N Text players overwhelmed us," added Austria after the Turbo Chargers set a PBA record by failing to score a single point in overtime

Billy Mamaril had an off-night in Game 2 and the Turbo Chargers had 29 turnovers, unlikely for a team which has the fewest turnovers every game.

While the Gin Kings avenged their 96-87 Game 1 debacle, they have yet to find an antidote to the high-scoring Danny Seigle.

"He's probably the best player in the league right now in scoring. He can do a lot of things and there's no way to stop him. We tried our best but we just could not," said Barangay Ginebra coach Siot Tanquingcen.

"If you ask me, I don't think anybody could stop him. But we'll try our best to come up with a defensive strategy against him," he added.

In Game 2, Seigle exploded for a career-high 39 points and 11 rebounds following a 32-point, 12-rebound output in Game 1. *June Navarro*

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education (DepEd)
SECONDARY EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT AND IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (SEDIP)
National Project Management Office (NPMO)
5th Floor, Bonifacio Building, DepEd Complex, Meralco Ave., Pasig City

DepED

INVITATION TO BID

The Republic of the Philippines through the Department of Education is a recipient of an Official Development Assistance (ODA) loan from the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) in the amount of JPY 7.210 million to finance the Secondary Education Development and Improvement Project (SEDIP). It is intended that part of the proceeds of the loan will be utilized for eligible expenditures for the new construction of two (2) units, Two-storey, Eight (8) – Classroom Buildings with Two (2) Toilets, one shall be constructed in Bais City NHS-Main, Bais City and the other shall be in Sta. Catalina Community High School, Sta. Catalina, both in the province of Negros Oriental

JBIC requires that bidders and contractors as well as the DepEd, under contracts funded with JBIC ODA loans, observe the highest standard of ethics during the procurement and execution of such contract. In pursuance of this, JBIC: (i) will reject a proposal for award if it determines that the bidder recommended for award has engaged in corrupt or fraudulent practices in competing for the contract in question, and (ii) will recognize a contractor as ineligible, for a stated period of time, to be awarded a contract funded with JBIC ODA loans if it, at any time, determines that the contractor has engaged in corrupt or fraudulent practices in competing for or in executing another contract financed by JBIC ODA loans or other Japanese ODA.

Bidding is open to all Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board (PCAB) registered contractors or joint venture contractors with valid license, general building in category and eligible to enter into a contract based on award.

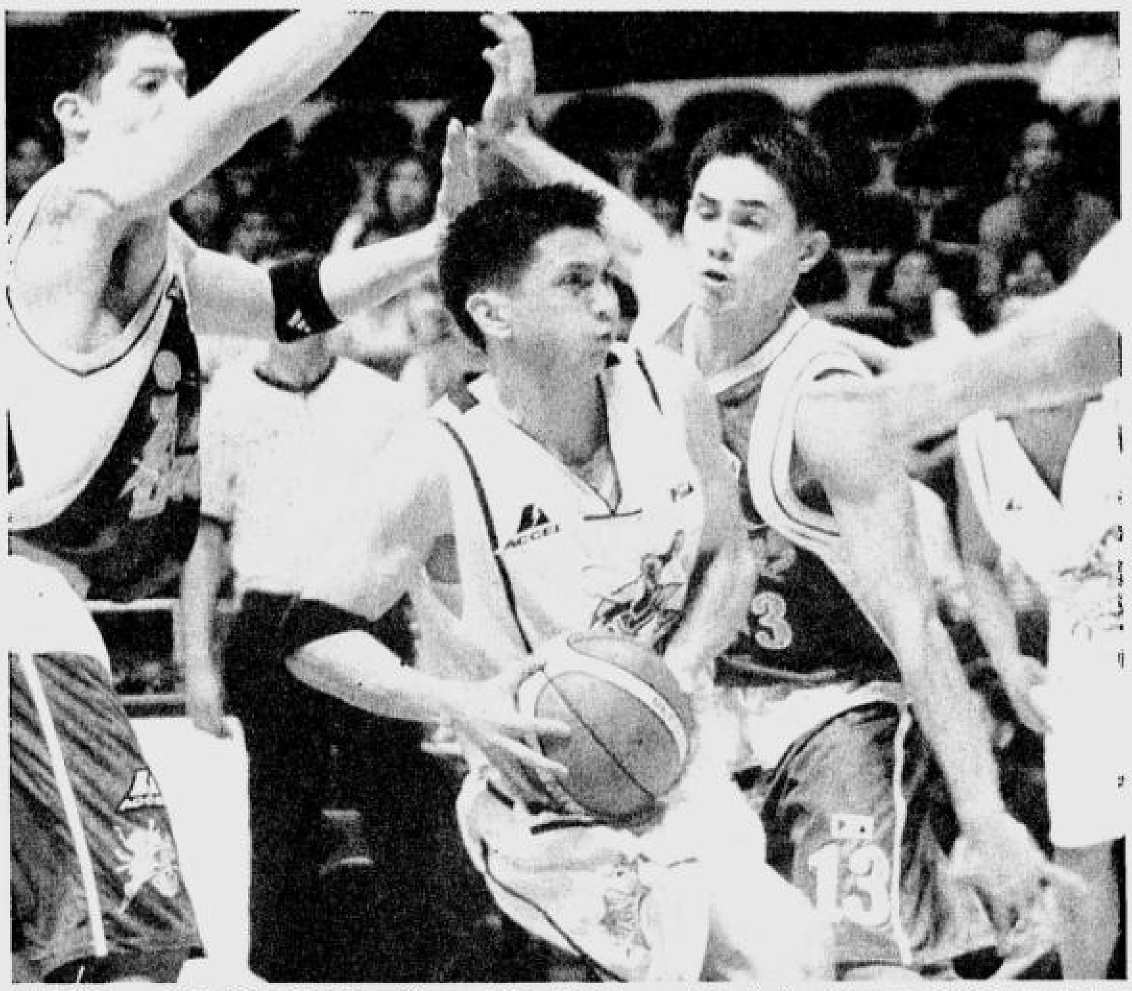
The following are the information and schedules of activities in the bidding process that should be made known to the qualified bidders upon submission of a Letter of Intent (LOI) for the particular project/s.

Particulars	Bais City NHS-Main	Sta. Catalina Community HS
Issuance of Bidding Documents	The Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) City Mayor's Office Bais City, Negros Oriental	The Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) Mayor's Office, Municipal Hall Sta. Catalina, Negros Oriental
Tel. No.	(035)531-0594/ CGSO (035)541-5114	(035)531-0594/ (035)531-0491 loc. 12
Cost of Bidding Documents	P3,000.00	P3,000.00
Start Date of Issuance	January 17, 2005	January 17, 2005
Deadline of Issuance	February 3, 2005 at 5:00 p.m.	February 3, 2005 at 5:00 p.m.
Pre-bid Conferences	February 7, 2005 at 2:00 p.m.	February 8, 2005 at 2:00 p.m.
Deadline of Submission of Bids	February 18, 2005 at 10:00 a.m.	February 17, 2005 at 10:00 a.m.

All the submitted bids, together with the required documents stipulated in the Bidding Documents, will be opened shortly after the deadline of submission of bids in the presence of the bidders or their legally authorized representative/s

(Sgd.) JUAN MIGUEL M. LUZ
Undersecretary for Administration and Finance

(PDI - Jan 16 & 23, 2005)


JIMMY Alapag of Talk 'N Text finds himself hemmed in by Shell players during their semifinal game Friday. VAL HANDUMON

TNT poised for sweep over Shell

IF THERE'S one thing Mark Telan would rather not think about, it's the feel-good idea of Talk 'N Text scoring a semifinal sweep.

"Anything can still happen. In the playoffs, you'll be up at one stretch and down in the next. You can never really tell," said the 6-foot-6 Telan, the Phone Pals' money man in the paint after Asi Taulava got suspended at the start of the conference.

Telan pointed to situations in the past when a team goes two games up in a best-of-five playoff series only to lose its momentum in succeeding matches.

In PBA history, only two teams had surged back from a 0-2 deficit in a best-of-five series and won, although both happened in the Finals.

Crispa did the trick against Toyota in the 1975 third conference while Purefoods repeated the act over Alaska in the same season-ending conference in 1990.

"One thing's for sure though, I will do everything within my capacity. Even if we lose on Sunday (today), there will be no regrets because I certainly will put up my best," said Telan.

The Phone Pals, seeking a seat in the best-of-seven championships, are favored in Game 3 after defeating the Turbo Chargers in the series opener, 101-89, and in Game 2, a 92-84 overtime victory marred by a left ankle injury to Willie Miller.

Miller landed heavily on his left foot after soaring for a layup midway in the third quarter of Game 2 and injured it.

"Playoff basketball is really highly physical. We know it and Shell knows it that every game here in the semifinals is going to be a war," said playmaker Jimmy Alapag, himself a recipient of a couple of blows from the Turbo Chargers.

Despite their twin losses, the Turbo Chargers are still up on their feet, promising to dish out the same intensity in Game 2, which they nearly won.

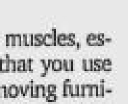
Chris Jackson's three-pointer gave Shell an 84-82 lead midway in the final minute but Vic Pablo drained a mid-range jumper from the left flank with three seconds left that sent the game into overtime.

The dejected Turbo Chargers went on to set a record in futility by becoming the first PBA team to go scoreless in the five-minute extension.

"We don't have any thoughts of giving up. The fighting spirit is still there and the morale is still high because, we feel, there's nothing to lose. Remember, nobody thought we'd make it to the semifinals except ourselves," said Shell coach Leo Austria.

More on Jordan's formula of success

SPECTATOR



Al S. Mendoza

AS I was saying, Tim Grover gave Michael Jordan the formula of success in Jordan's quest for basketball greatness. With Grover devising Jordan's NBA fitness program, Jordan went on to win six NBA championship rings playing for the Chicago Bulls. Always, when asked who helped him attain his agility, focus and staying power until his retirement only a while back, Jordan would point to Grover. With Jordan gone, Grover still has Tiger Woods, among sports' other certified superstars, under his wings.

Here are some more tips from Grover on how to be in top shape all the time, as told to Bob Condor of Playboy.

SMART THINKING: Current exercise research shows that the brain is a terrible thing to waste during a workout. Athletes who think about the muscles being worked develop their physiques faster, stronger and bigger than control groups who let their minds wander.

Grover admits it can be difficult—maybe even boring—to think about your muscles constantly during workouts. He recommends that you consider the muscles with each new lift or stretch and remind yourself every few minutes. Make a commitment to concentrate on muscles worked during at least one session per week.

BE FREE: "Weight machines are good for beginners and for top athletes getting into peak shape," says Grover. "Machines can help strengthen injured areas, such as a cranky lower back, without risk. But I suggest that everyone use free weights whenever possible."

Free weights work more muscles, especially stabilizer muscles that you use every day, whether you're moving furniture or negotiating moguls on a double-diamond run.

"Weight machines isolate muscles," says Grover. "You can throw your body out of alignment with too much work on certain muscles in the upper body or legs. Free weights minimize the risk and encourage good posture and better balance."

IT AIN'T ABOUT HEAVY: Grover says that only competition bodybuilders should lift heavy weights. The rest of us would do ourselves a favor by cutting our current weight amounts in half, then doing more repetitions with proper form.

"Once you master technique, set goals to lift a certain number of reps in an appointed amount of time rather than increasing the weight. After you reach the time goals, then increase the weight. This plan encourages quickness and body control."

Again, that's about it for now.

***

I like the part where Grover tells us that "free weights work more muscles." That's really true. There is this myth that the heavier you lift; the better. Thank God Grover believes that only competition bodybuilders should lift heavy weights. We are both in the same boat.

History is replete with tales about political prisoners, deprived of proper exercise while behind bars, lifting books to stay fit. I do that, too—a lot, actually. I read every day that's why, as books are part mostly of my daily routine.

I also lift other weights. A pail of water to water my garden; the water hose makes you lazy, you know. My golf bag, a little heavy I must admit, I load in the car at least twice a week. I lift my chair as a habit before I start writing my column five times a week.

I still lift my all-time favorite lift: Calauag's Sol Juvida. But with the years finally telling on my muscles, I had to heed Tim Grover's advice: Lift only what your muscles can lift. Thus, without meaning to lessen my dose of SJ lifting, I now lift mostly the much lighter weights. And, much to my liking, the best weight variety to lift that is best suited to my physique these days is none other than the glass. To break monotony, I also lift a bottle.

For, if lifting is good for the muscles, isn't milk good for the bones?

***

FASTBREAK. *Tia* Lilay Mendoza Sison, one of my mother's closest friends, turned 90 yesterday. *Kuya* Boni and his brothers and sisters (*Kuya* Napi, *Atchie* Minerva, *Atchie* Lily, Vicky, Didi and Soc) held a party in her honor yesterday at their family residence in Brgy. Calvo, Mangatarem, Pangasinan. Happy birthday, *Tia* Lilay!

Caddies' golf entries pass one hundred

ENTRIES from as far as Iligan and the hub of talent in Apo Golf in Davao poured in at the close of registration on Tuesday, bringing to more than 100 the participants seeing action in the National Caddies' Open 2005 next week.

ESGUERRA PDI PHOTO

"It's an overwhelming response," said cochair Hermie Esguerra. "With support like that, this one-of-a-kind tournament of ours is assured of success."

"But let us not forget what this undertaking is all about. We are not after a successful tournament per se, but a successful after-tournament program where we can help Philippine golf in particular."

The champion racehorse owner and breeder, who shares tournament chairmanship responsibilities with Wack Wack president Ben Abalos, is excited in seeing the talent the current field will bring in the event slated Feb. 1-4 in three championship venues.

"The tournament is just the avenue for us to see the talent left untapped for so long in the caddies' pool," Esguerra explained. "We will enjoy watching the tournament, yes, but we will enjoy the program afterwards, more."

The event, held under the auspices of the Philippine Amateur Golf Development Foundation, will put the top three finishers into a program that would take them out of caddying forever and mold them into players of Philippine team caliber.

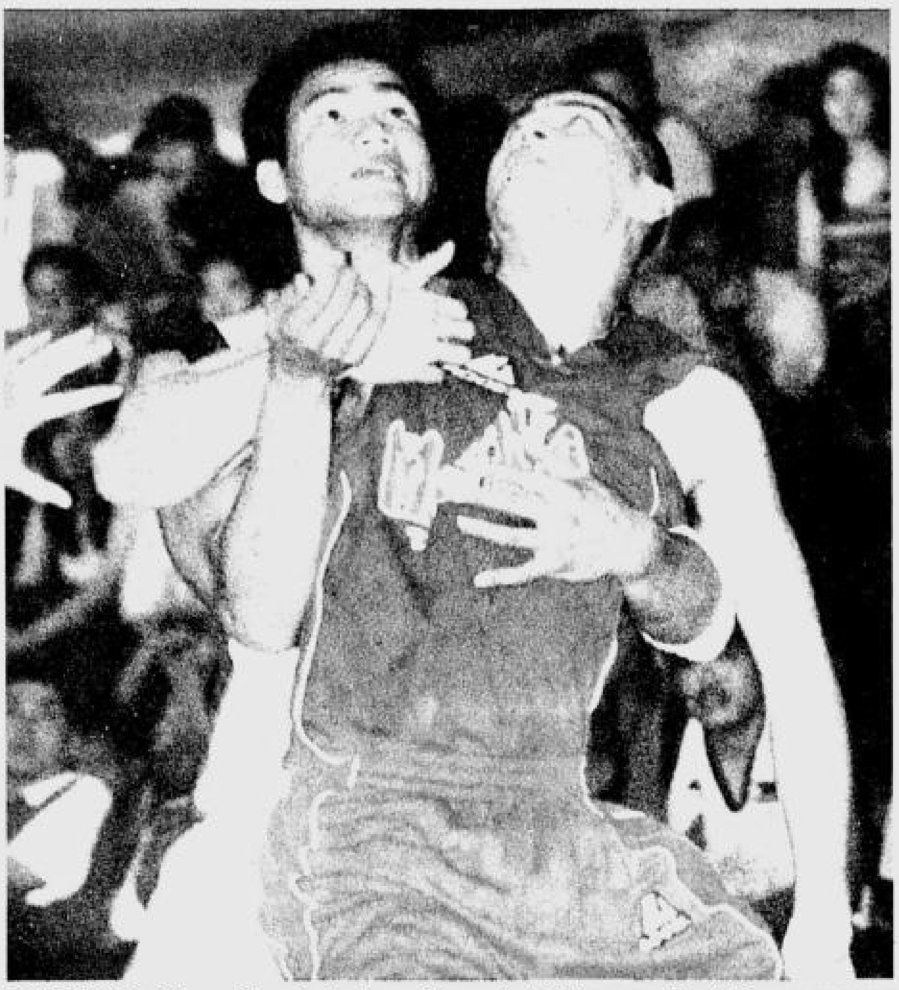
With the rags-to-riches stories of former Mandaluyong mayor Abalos and businessman Tony Arevalo serving as inspirations, the NCO was launched late last year and got a formidable ally in Esguerra, a 50-year-old philanthropist with a heart for the needy.

"I could not ask for a more noble idea," Esguerra, who was also tapped as the godfather for softball in the Manila Southeast Asian Games this November, said.

The NCO program will put the top three finishers under the care of Tommy Manotoc's PAGDF, which will house, feed and support them for the next two years while training under swing coach Bong Lopez.

Part of the NCO program is to have them play in every major amateur event in the country and, if qualified, sent to tough international tournaments in Asia at first, and then Europe and the United States later.

Esguerra has pledged 10 percent of all of his horses' winnings for the month of January as seed money for the long-term program of the NCO, assuring that the vision of the organization is carried out to the letter.



ABY SANTOS of Granny Goose jostles for position against Al Magpayo of Montaña. AUGUST DELA CRUZ

Lady Knights face Tigresses

GAMES TODAY (*Rizal Memorial Coliseum*)
1 p.m.—Letran vs Santo Tomas
3 p.m.- La Salle vs. San Sebastian

By Musong R. Castillo

LETRAN shoots for a fourth straight victory and a virtual lock on the fourth semifinal slot today when it clashes with Santo Tomas U in the Shakey's V-League at the Rizal Coliseum.

The Lady Knights collide with the defending champion Tigresses in the 1 p.m. contest with a win practically assuring them of advancing to the final four set to start Feb. 1.

Letran is in solo fourth with a 5-4 card, a full game ahead of Lyceum.

But things won't come easy for the Lady Knights, since the Tigresses will be going all out for win No. 10 in 11 games that would put them closer to top seeding in the first round of the playoffs.

No. 1 would mean clashing with the lowest ranked team in the final four and avoiding a confrontation with dangerous PSC, a motley crew of Southeast Asian Games veterans who have somehow managed to turn back the hands of time and become a formidable force here.

Letran lost its first round meeting with the Tigresses in straight sets, winning only a total of only 53 points.

Coach Nes Pamilar, though, will not come into the game without hopes of winning, most especially after seeing the Tigresses struggle for five sets before winning over the Lady Pirates last Thursday.

"We just have to receive well to have a chance," Pamilar said in Filipino. "If we can do that, we have a decent shot at winning."

La Salle, meanwhile, is heavily favored against also-ran San Sebastian in the 3 p.m. game. The Lady Archers are shooting for their ninth win in 10 games.

The Lady Archers can extend the longest winning streak in the tournament to nine with a victory today, and more importantly, stay within striking distance of the Tigresses for top seeding.

Red Star Rising, Empire King, West Bound clash again today

By Edwin Villanueva, *Contributor*

EMPIRE King and West Bound are riding high on their big season-ending wins, while Red Star Rising hopes to finally redeem himself following two heartbreaking finishes the last time around.

The country's top three star gallopers cross paths again in a "reunion race" to determine who'll claim the year's first major event during the opening leg of the Santa Ana Park Championship series at the premier Makati track today.

Well-rested since ruling the Presidential Gold Cup, Empire King is expected to get the attention, and probably much of the bettors' money, when regular pilot Jeffrey Ladiana mounts him anew for the 1,600-meter outing.

But West Bound, who lost to Empire King in the PGC by a nose but rebounded strongly to win the Philracom Classic Open, appears to be another major thorn on the latter's side.

And don't set aside Red Star Rising, the Trillana Stable pride bent on finally hitting the wire first after landing third in the PGC and second in the Classic Open.

West Bound is again running under Eldy Salvador, while father-and-son Francis and Michael Trillana have decided to extend the services of Fernando Raquel Jr. on Red Star Rising.

The weight (58 kgs in the PGC and 59 kgs in the Open) may have bothered Red Star Rising in his last assignments but this could be the one factor going for him in this afternoon's contest.

The 5-year-old Khozaam-Ito's Choice progeny is carrying only 55 kg today, a kilo lighter than what was assigned to both Empire King and West Bound.

"*Baka sakali makauna na sa meta* (Hopefully, he can make it first to the wire this time)," said Raquel, who replaced Manolito Daquis, Red Star Rising's pilot in his 2003 PGC and Classic Open wins.

Another local—West Bound's coupled entry Cover Girl—and imported mares American Woman, Stowaway Lass and Sound Offer are also joining the hunt for the P300,000 winner's prize in the race staged by the Philippine Racing Club in cooperation with the Philracom under chair Jimmy Dilag.

Cover Girl salvaged sixth in the last PGC and wound up third in the Open. American Woman ran a disappointing eighth in the Open where Stowaway Lass claimed fourth. Sound Offer was impressive in her last run.

AT SANTA ANA
BY MR. 990

Race 1—1. Playing Cool 2. Born Perfect 3. All Powerful
Race 2—1. Schwarzenegger 2. Capricorn Aida 3. Bridegroom 4. Take Ten
Race 3—1. Moab/Arrivederci 2.Hellfire 3. Aya's Dream 4. Siempre Naman
Race 4—1. Speed Advantage 2. Sir Brendan Jean 3. Sir Guguy 4. Flying Machine 5. Sweet Talk
Race 5—1. Silver Cho Cho 2. Windy City 3. Split Decision 4. Flaming Heart
Race 6—1. Carolina Belle 2. Pirouette 3. Road Runner 3. Skip Away 5. Yonder Girl
Race 7—1. Yokozuna 2. Queen Banana 3. Spinning Bullet
Race 8—1. Red Star Rising 2. West Bound/Cover Girl 3. Empire King 4. Sound Offer
Race 9—1. Silver Music 2. Material Trick 3. Noble House 4. Dennis D Menace 5. Reign of Fire
Race 10—1. At All Cost 2. Legally Blonde 3. Speedster 4. Native Prince
Race 11—1. Dynasty 2. My Lucky One 3. Parrot Moe 4. Cool Reception 5. Going Strike
Race 12—1. Tenacity 2. Shaolin 3. Shuttler 4. College Gem
Race 13—1. Gleaming Heart 2. Ravishing Raffy 3. Golden Treasure 4.Fancy Dancer 5. Jaw Breaker 6. Precious Moment

RP MARATHON FOR PASIG: Australian Dave Cundy (second from right) of the Association of International Marathon and Road Races calibrates the Jones counter to be used in measuring the 42-km route of the 1st Philippine Marathon for the Pasig River on Feb. 27. He is assisted by Bingle Gutierrez, Tisha Abundo and Ben Silvaneto. ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

Torre enters Tanauan tilt

THE LONG-AWAITED clash of the generations takes place at the 1st Tanauan Chess Open-Mayor's Cup as Asia's first grandmaster, Eugene Torre, and former world Under-14 Rapid champion Mark Paragua have signed in for the two-day Active Chess tournament.

The tournament, slated March 4-5 at the Speaker Jose B. Laurel Memorial Gymnasium in Tanauan City, is the richest ever Active Chess event locally with a cash pot of P200,000.

The champion gets the lion share of P100,000 plus trophy. The second placer will receive P40,000; third, P20,000; fourth, P10,000; fifth, 5,000; 6th-10th, P2,000 each; and 11th-20th, P1,000 each.

Cash prizes and Chess Asia publications will be awarded to top performers in the Under-2000, Under-1800 and Under-1600 category.

Registration is being accepted at the First Asia Institute, #2 President Laurel Highway, Tanauan City, Batangas, (043) 7780656 and 7781529 loc. 106 or contact 0918-6966581 and e-mail acca@info.com.ph for details.

SPORTSWATCH

Antonio ties for 8th-9th in Montreal

FILIPINO Grandmaster Rogelio "Joey" Antonio Jr. dropped his last round assignment against former US junior champion IM Eugene Perelshteyn and suffered the worst performance in his entire chess career in the just-concluded 2005 Montreal World Chess Tournament at the Saint-Laurent Recreation Center in Montreal, Canada. Antonio wound up with 2.5 points and finished tied for eighth and ninth in the 10-player field topped by Russian GM Dmitrty Jakovenko with 8.0 points. With his 1-win, 3-draw, 5-loss slate, Antonio's Elo of 2539 will drop to 2513, relegating him to third behind GM-Candidate Mark Paragua (Elo 2586) and erstwhile No. 3 GM Eugene Torre (2530). *NM Marlon Bernardino*

Fistorama features bantam title fight

"SAMSUNG'S Fistorama" today, features the Philippine Boxing Federation Junior Bantamweight championship fight between Jun Ebale and Roy Doliguez. This will be supported by a four-round bout between Rex Madrid and Elmer Francisco. Both fights were held recently in Cagayan de Oro City. Samsung's Fistorama is aired at 4 p.m. Sundays on RPN-9. The longest running local golf show, Golf Power, featuring the just-concluded 8th Samsung International Junior Golf Championships, precedes the boxing program at 3 p.m.

Ringside TV Boxing on ABC-5

FORMER Philippine champion Baby Lorona Jr. tangles with Jack Asis, while Lino Pongan fights Rogelio Ibanez in today's presentation of Ginebra San Miguel's Ringside TV Boxing on ABC-5 from 3 to 4 p.m. A co-production of Galorde Enterprises and ABC-5, with Mabuhay Channel beaming the satellite feed to different parts of the United States—hosts Havy Bagatsing and Luis Zabaljauregui will also feature the "Ultimate Challenge" boxing promotion of Ringside in Mandaue City on Jan. 29. The "Ultimate Challenge" main protagonists are WBO AsPac bantamweight king Rey "Boom Boom" Bautista and South African Vuyisile Bebe for the WBO AsPac bantamweight championship.

Paragua, Mariano head Filway Open bets

GRANDMASTER-CANDIDATE Mark Paragua and GMs Rogelio "Joey" Antonio Jr. and Nelson Mariano II lead the cast of the first Filway-Time Life Open chess tournament slated on Feb. 12-13 at the second floor, Trade Hall Starmall Shopping Complex corner Edsa and Shaw Boulevard, in Mandaluyong City. "This [tournament] is a good practice for me," said Paragua. "I haven't played since my last tournament in Singapore."

The tournament is sponsored by Filway Marketing Inc. CEO/president Hector "Chito" O. Tagaysay, also the main benefactor of Paragua, the country's top-ranked player with an Elo rating of 2586.

The National Chess Federation of the Philippines-sanctioned tournament had four division events and is organized by the Mandaluyong City Chess Association (MCCA) in cooperation with Starmall Shopping Complex.

Other prominent woodpushers who confirmed their participation are reigning Asian 3.2a zonal champion GM candidate Ronald Dableo, GM-candidate Jayson Gonzales, GM-candidate Fernie Donguines, GM-candidate Ronald "Onat" Bancod and 2004 National Open champion IM-candidate Darwin Laylo.

PARAGUA: Good practice PDI PHOTO

Also entered are NM Samuel Estimo, Winston Silva, Quirino Sagario, Bob Jones Liwagon, Mirabeau Maga, Rudy Ibañez, Roberto Suelo Jr., Rolando Nolte, Mario Rebano and five-time Philippine executive champion dentist Jenny Mayor.

The Open division champion will get P30,000, the second placer P15,000, the third placer P10,000, fourth P5,000, fifth P3,000, sixth P2,000, and seventh to 10th P1,000 each.

Winners in the non-master, senior, junior and unrated categories get P1,000 each.

The women's champion will receive P10,000, the second placer P5,000, the third placer P2,000, and the fourth and fifth placers P1,000 each.

Prize purses of P4,000, P2,000, P1,000, P700 and P500 await the top five finishers in the boys' and girls' brackets of the kiddies (12-and-under) tournament.

For inquiries, call tournament director Wilfredo "Willie" Abalos at (0921) 6219898. *NM Marlon Bernardino*

SPORTSWRITERS AS
ARDS N

REVTEX still RP's top motocross team—Motocross stalwarts Glenn Aguilar and Kenneth San Andres reaffirmed Caltex Revtex's status as the country's top motocross team after being honored by the Philippine Sportswriters Association (PSA) during its simple yet meaningful awards rites recently. Aguilar was named by the National Motorcycle Sports and Safety Association (Namssa) as its Rider of the Year for a historic eighth time, the most by any athlete in any given sport while San Andres was chosen Rookie of the Year. Here, the two are joined by former Philippine President Fidel V. Ramos during the awards ceremonies.

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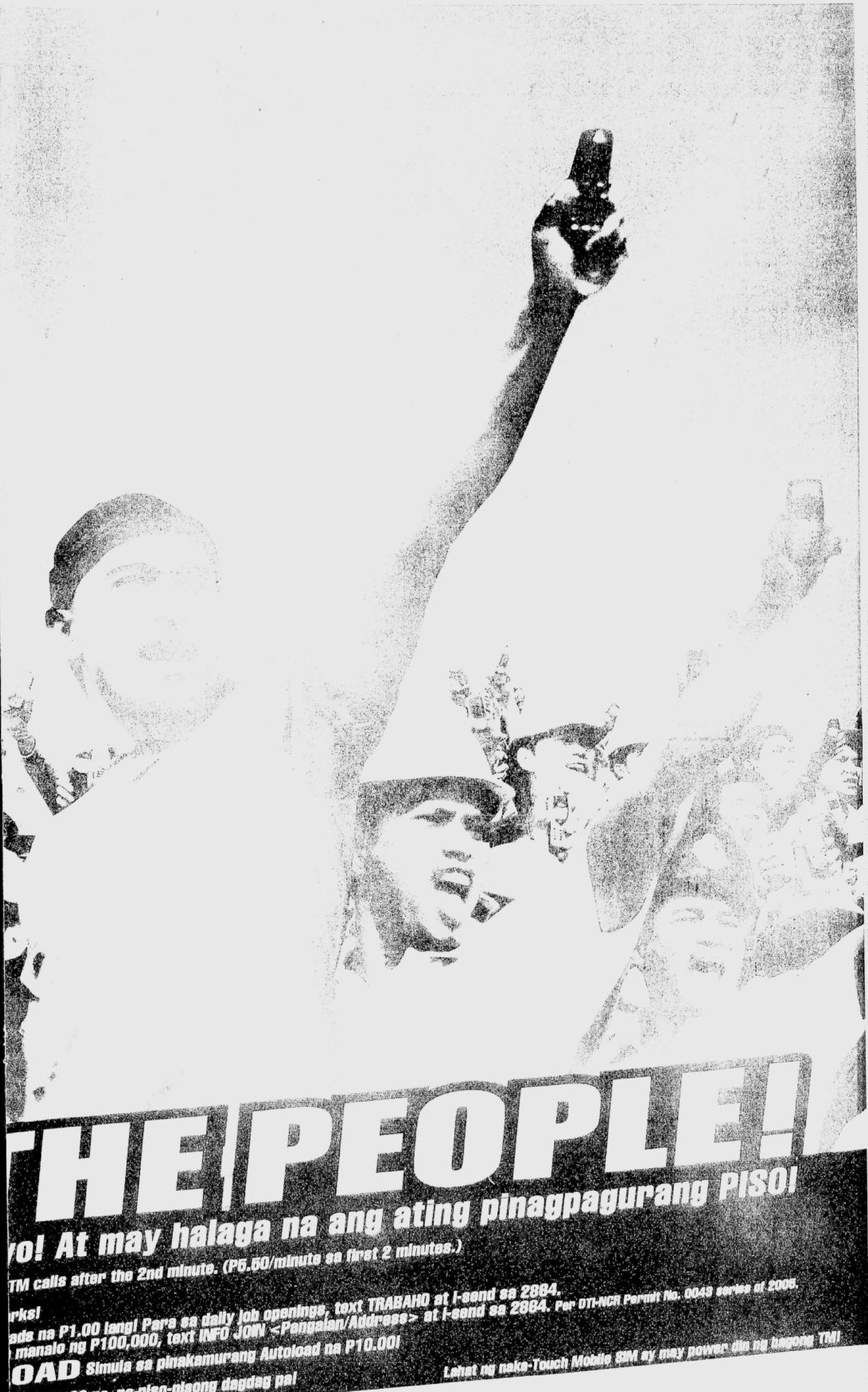

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LAKAS NG GLOBE

Roddick fires 22 aces, crushes foe

Davenport, Myskina, Williams gain

MELBOURNE, Australia—Andy Roddick served 22 aces and hit 41 winners—including a passing shot played between his legs—and beat Austria's Jurgen Melzer, 6-2, 6-2, 7-5, Saturday to advance to the fourth round of the Australian Open.

The second-ranked Roddick had the crowd buzzing after starting his first service game with a pair of aces. He unleashed serves at up to 225 kph (139 mph).

"I thought I moved really well. I got up two sets, the third one got a little tight, but I was able to get through," said Roddick, who noted his serve is well short of his world-record 249 kph (155 mph). "I'm holding serve though, that's the most important thing."

In the third game, the 32nd-seeded Melzer drew Roddick into the net with a drop shot, then sent up a lob that landed just inside the line. Roddick raced back and flicked the ball back between his legs and down the line as Melzer barely moved.

He repeated the shot later in the match, but missed it the second time.

"I got greedy. The first one felt good, so I needed more," he said.

Roddick was greedy with his serve. He lost only four points on his first serve after saving three break points in the fourth game of the match, which went to deuce four times.

They were Melzer's only looks at a break point.

Roddick next plays Germany's Philipp Kohlschreiber, who beat French qualifier Jean-Rene Lisnard, 7-5, 6-3, 6-2.

Henman out

Tim Henman hit a reflex volley behind his back, catching Nicolay Davydenko by surprise, to rival Roddick for the shot of the day.

But the ball Henman smashed into the stands in anger in the third set was his cleanest hit in a 6-4, 6-2, 6-2 third-round loss to the 26th-seeded Davydenko.

The seventh-seeded Henman was a semifinalist at the French and US Opens last year and a quarterfinalist at Wimbledon. But he seemed distracted Saturday, making 32 unforced errors and five double-faults.

"I feel totally gutted, really," Henman said. "My expectations were obviously for a lot more.

Davydenko, who'd never reached the second week in 15 previous majors, next faces 12th-seeded Guillermo Canas, a 6-1, 6-2, 6-2 winner over Radek Stepanek.

French Open finalist Guillermo Coria beat former No. 1 Juan Carlos Ferrero, 6-3, 6-2, 6-1, and will play fellow Argentine David Nalbandian, seeded ninth, in the next round.

"Today I felt excellent," said Coria. "I made the most of the moments where I could break his service and I feel very confident about the next match."

Nalbandian, a Wimbledon finalist in 2002 and quarterfinalist here the last two years, beat error-prone Fernando Gonzalez, 6-7 (3), 7-5, 6-2, 6-3, converting a third of his 24 breakpoint chances.

Women's results

Women's French Open champion Anastasia Myskina joined Russia's two other Grand Slam title holders in the fourth round when American Lisa Raymond withdrew from their match Saturday.

Top-ranked Lindsay Davenport beat 15-year-old Czech qualifier Nicole Vaidisova, 6-2, 6-4, setting up a fourth-round match against 13th-seeded Karolina Sprem, who ousted Elena Likhovtseva, 6-4, 6-3.

No. 8 Venus Williams won the last nine games in a one-hour, 6-3, 6-0 rout of Anna Smashnova.

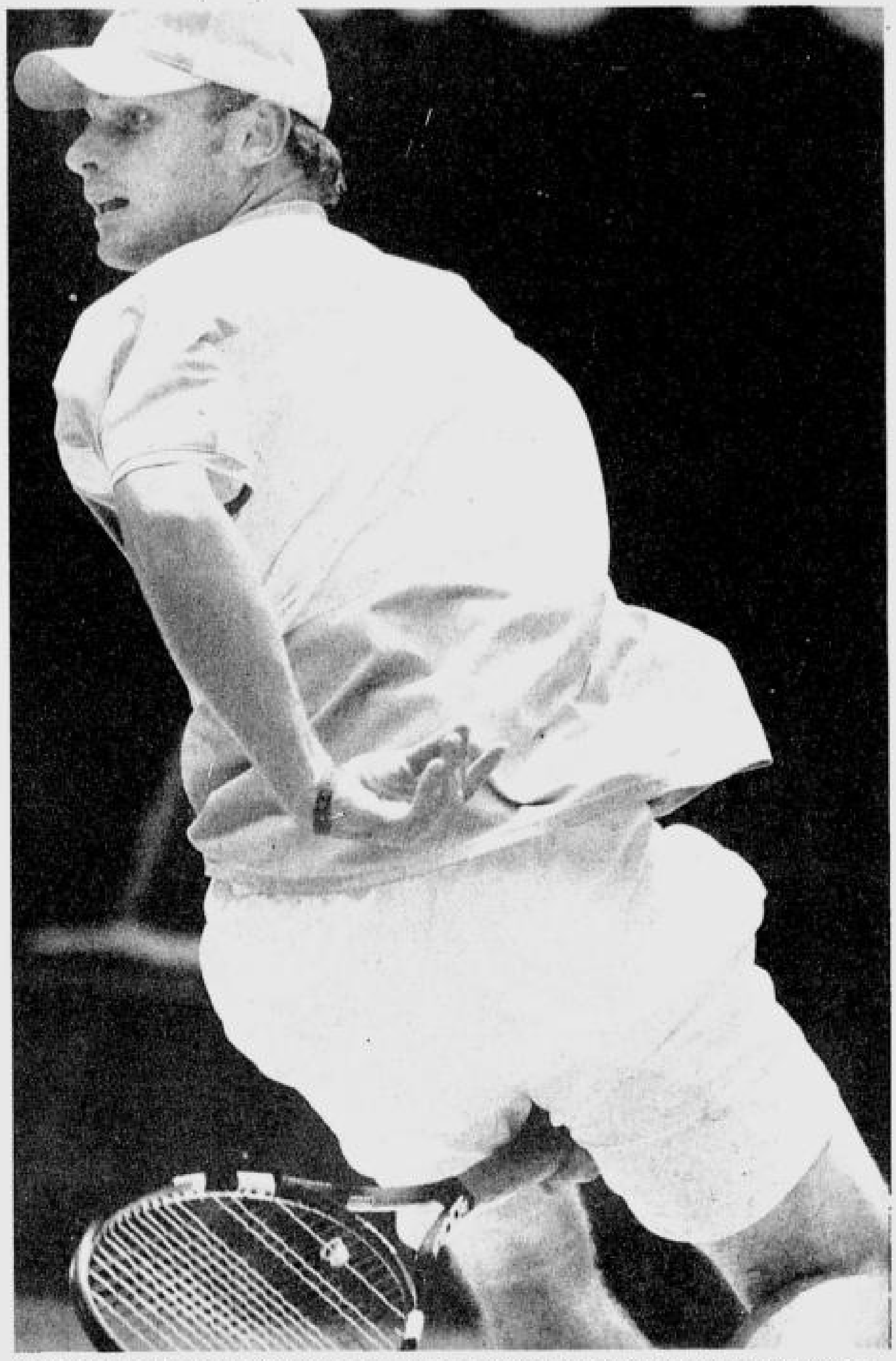
After holding at 3-3, Smashnova never had more than two points on her serve.

Tenth-seeded Alicia Molik closed a 6-3, 6-2 win over Tatiana Panova with an ace, and advances to face Venus Williams.

"Bring it on!" Molik told the crowd at Rod Laver Arena after reaching the fourth round, matching her best run at a major.

Raymond tore abdominal muscles in the first game of a second-round doubles match on Friday.

The 31-year-old American reached the quarterfinals last year. *AP*



A SUPERB passing shot hit between the legs highlights second seed Andy Roddick's victory over Jurgen Melzer of Austria in the Australian Open. AFP

Lehman keeps rolling through the fog

SAN DIEGO—US Ryder Cup captain Tom Lehman returned from a three-hour fog delay and shot 5-under 67 at the Buick Invitational on Friday to lead after two rounds and match the 36-hole record.

How big that lead was remained to be seen.

Lehman was at 15-under 129, tying the record set by Lennie Clements in 1996.

Peter Lonard of Australia was at 12 under par and playing his final hole on the par-5 ninth hole on the North course at Torrey Pines when the second round was suspended by darkness.

Tiger Woods also shot himself into contention, making three birdies in four holes after the fog delay. He was at 11 under on the North course, facing the reachable par-5 18th.

They were among 59 players who had to return at 7:30 a.m. Saturday (1230 GMT) to complete the second round.

Lehman easily handled the difficult South course, site of the 2008 US Open, by finishing his round with four straight birdies. He closed with six straight birdies on the North course on Thursday.

"I felt the fog delay actually worked in my favor," Lehman said. "I was struggling a bit with my swing, and I went to the range and hit balls for an hour and a half, and felt like I got my rhythm back."

However, Lehman has struggled to close out tournaments, and not won since the 2000 Phoenix Open. He ended last year by playing in the final group in three straight tournaments, failing to win.

"I think your good golf comes when you're not thinking about the results," Lehman said. "You're just thinking about executing. I think I made 19 birdies in 36 holes. That's without question a personal best for me."

But he looks stronger than ever, and really showed his stuff to anyone who could see in the fog.

He got up-and-down from the bunker on the par-5 sixth, then made a 10-footer for birdie on the seventh and was cruising along on what appeared to be another brilliant day along the cliffs over the Pacific Ocean.

The fog came out of nowhere.

"I was on the 12th tee when they blew the horn," Chris Smith said. "Thirty seconds later, I couldn't see the green."

Fog quickly engulfed Torrey Pines, with the visibility down to about 150 yards (meters). The second round was suspended more than three hours, and most players figured they were done for the day.

Mark Calcavecchia sure was. He was at 6 over, with no chance to make the cut, and stuck on his final hole when he decided to withdraw. Ditto for David Duval, who was 10 over with five holes to play, stuck around for a few hours then decided to head home to Denver.

Six players withdrew, and only 91 players finished the second round.

Ernie Els was on par-3 16th on the South course when the fog suspended play. He had a 4-iron in his hand, but when he returned, the moist conditions forced him to use a 2-iron. He went into the bunker, made bogey, and had to hit a beautiful wedge that checked up next to the cup for a tap-in birdie on No. 18 for a 71.

Els, playing at Torrey Pines for the first time since he was 14, was in a large group at 8-under 136.

"When I was good, I was very good," Els said. "But when I was good, I didn't make all the putts. And when I was bad, I made bogeys. I've got to be reasonably happy with 71."

Woods can't complain.

He started strong with a pair of 2-foot birdies, followed by an 8-foot birdie at No. 3 on the North to get into the fray. After the fog delay, he birdied the par-5 14th, then added two more birdies to get within four shots of Lehman with a par 5 to play Saturday morning.

Phil M[illegible]elson had a 67 on the North and was [illegible] shots behind in his 2005 debut.

Vijay Singh, the No. 1 player in the world, struggled with his tee shots and putting, and he hovered around the cut line most of the day until two late birdies gave him a 69. He finished at 4-under 140, 11 shots behind. *AP*

TOM LEHMAN tees off the 14th hole during the second round. AFP

Allado eyes new team; Ramos tops FedEx list

By June Navarro

DON ALLADO, Alaska's tower of strength in the shaded lane, wants to play for another team when the second conference of the Philippine Basketball Association blasts off six weeks from now.

A reliable source yesterday told the INQUIRER that the 6-foot-6 former De La Salle Archer is inclined to move out of the Alaska camp and shop for another team that will need his services.

Talks of Allado's desire to transfer surfaced a week after the Aces got booted out by the San Miguel Beermen in the wild-card phase of the ongoing Gran Matador PBA Philippine Cup.

In another development, a source said Bong Ramos, a former coach of the Batangas Blades in the defunct Metropolitan Basketball Association, has the inside track on the coaching job of the FedEx Express.

Ramos, who called the shots for the Indonesian basketball team in the Vietnam Southeast Asian Games, has been considered by the Express management to replace Joe Lipa, whose services were terminated by FedEx early this week.

The Express made the coaching change after failing to qualify for the quarterfinals in the ongoing conference

If Ramos gets appointed as head coach, the former Mapua Cardinal will call the shots for Express along with former UP Maroon Dolreich "Bo" Perasol, who will act as his deputy.

The name of Ramos cropped up earlier as one of the possible replacements for Lipa, a list that included former Talk 'N Text and current Letran coach Louie Alas.

ALLADO PDI PHOTO

Clemens signs record pitcher contract

NEW YORK—On a big day for Texas, Roger Clemens decided to pitch for the Houston Astros once again and Carlos Delgado pondered an offer to join the Rangers.

Clemens put off retirement for the second straight season, agreeing to an $18-million, one-year contract with the Astros that gives him the highest salary for a pitcher in baseball history.

"I take a deep breath, and here we go again," Clemens said.

A seven-time Cy Young Award winner and 10-time All-Star, the 42-year-old right-hander helped the Astros come within one win of their first World Series appearance. He got the largest one-year contract in major league history, topping Greg Maddux's $14.75-million deal with Atlanta in 2003, and became the highest-paid pitcher for the fifth time. Pedro Martinez earned $17.5 million with Boston last season.

Clemens said sons Koby and Kory helped talk him into playing again.

"Just remember what it sounded like here, dad, when you took the mound and what it sounded like during the playoffs when we were winning," Clemens said they told him.

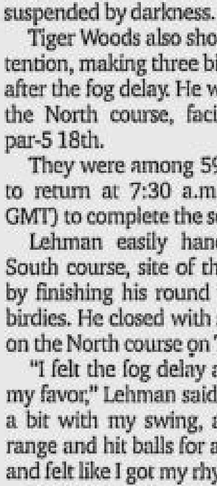
He chided himself for making "poor pitches" in wasting a 2-1 lead in Game 7 of last year's NL championship series against St. Louis.

He also took a shot at the summertime performance of Carlos Beltran, who left to sign for the New York Mets.

"No knock to Carlos, but he didn't do a whole lot—I mean, he was a tremendous player in September, we needed everybody," Clemens said.

While Clemens was discussing his deal at Minute Maid Park in Houston, the Rangers were talking about their big meeting with Delgado in Puerto Rico. Rangers owner Tom Hicks made an offer that got the attention of the first baseman.

"Tom Hicks said that he was going to come to Puerto Rico and give it his best shot," agent David Sloane said. "He did all that and more." *AP*



CLEMENS REUTERS

Aguinaldo Generals tame NCBA Wildcats

THE EMILIO Aguinaldo College Generals bounced back yesterday with a 75-65 rout of the National College of Business and Arts Wildcats in the 12th National Capital Region Athletic Association (NCRAA) men's basketball quarterfinals at the Pasay Sports Complex.

Team skipper Niño Songco and Bong Melocoton once again dictated the pace in the first three quarters as the Generals picked up their second win in three games.

This allowed the Generals to recover from their 77-81 setback to the La Salle-Dasmariñas Patriots the other day.

Songco and Melocoton banged in 18 and 12 points, respectively, as they helped put the Generals behind the unbeaten Patriots.

Earlier, Rizal Technological University dealt slumping defending champion St. Francis their third straight loss, 88-73.

The Generals raced to a 16-9 advantage in the first period with their trapping defense working wonders for them and with Songco pouring in 10 points.

Melocoton poured all of his points in the second canto as the Generals soared to a 39-24 halftime spread.

The Generals still managed to maintain a 10-point lead at endgame despite their inexperienced second stringers almost blowing away their huge advantage.

"We really played well in the first three periods," said Songco, in Filipino. "We had a hard time bringing the ball up at the start because we came off a loss."

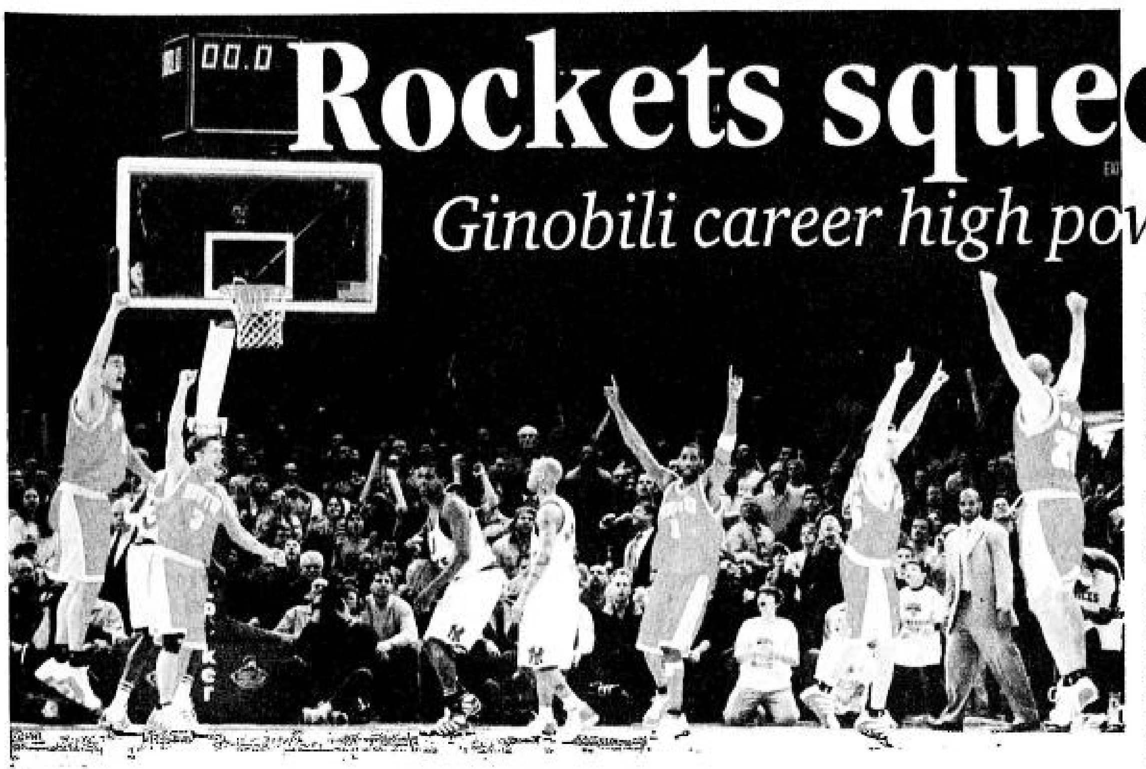
The Generals face a big test when they confront the Arellano University Flaming Arrows at 9 a.m. today.

NFL airs live on ESPN

THE DEFENDING champion New England Patriots take on the Pittsuburgh Steelers in the National Football League AFC Championship Game on Monday at 7:30 a.m. (replay at 8:30 p.m.) live on ESPN. New England thumped the Indianapolis Colts, 20–7, last week to make it to the AFC title match for the third time in the last four years. Quarterback Tom Brady and the rest of the Patriots will be gunning for their third Super Bowl appearance. Meanwhile, Pittsburgh edged the New York Jets in overtime, 20-17, during last week's AFC Divisional Playoffs to make its first AFC Championship Game appearance since 2002. Pittsburgh ironically lost that match to the Patriots, 17–24. The AFC champion will face the winner of the NFC Championship Game featuring the Atlanta Falcons and the Philadelphia Eagles in Super Bowl XXXIX. Super Bowl XXXIX will be aired live from Jacksonville, Florida on February 7, 2005 at 7 a.m. (Manila Time).

Rockets squeeze by Knicks

Ginobili career high powers Spurs; Bulls clip Hawks



THE HOUSTON Rockets celebrate after Scott Padgett (second from right) hits a floater of a shot at the buzzer to beat the New York Knicks at the Madison Square Garden. AFP

NEW YORK—Scott Padgett hit an off-balance, one-hander at the buzzer from just inside the free-throw line Friday to give the Houston Rockets a 92-91 victory over the slumping New York Knicks.

"I got lucky," Padgett said. "I don't think I've hit a floater in my career. It was not a bad time to make the first one."

Tracy McGrady scored 35 points, six on two 3-pointers in Houston's 13-0 run at the start of the second half, to help the Rockets win for the fifth time in their last seven games.

The Knicks have lost nine of 10.

MANU Ginobili (left) puts up a shot against Amare Stoudemire and Joe Johnson. REUTERS

Wizards 118, Raptors 109

In Washington, Antawn Jamison had 26 points and 13 rebounds, and Juan Dixon scored 26 for Washington, which raced to a 15-point first-quarter lead then withstood a Jalen Rose-led comeback in the second half to beat Toronto.

It was Washington's first win since Larry Hughes, the team's best all-around player, broke his thumb Saturday.

Nets 104, Celtics 98

In East Rutherford, New Jersey, Jason Kidd hit a crucial 3-point shot just before the shot clock expired with 57.9 seconds to play and New Jersey downed Boston to post a season-high third straight win.

Vince Carter added 25 points despite playing in foul trouble and Travis Best came off the bench to score a season-high 24 to help the Nets. (15-24) draw within 3 1/2 games of first-place Philadelphia (18-20) in the wide-open and woeful Atlantic Division.

Mavericks 105, Bobcats 99

In Charlotte, North Carolina, Michael Finley and Dirk Nowitzki scored 20 points each to lead the Dallas to its fourth consecutive victory with a win over Charlotte.

Jerry Stackhouse scored 19 points, Jason Terry had 17 and Josh Howard added 11 for the Mavericks, who have won nine of 11 games. Charlotte lost its seventh-straight and has dropped 13 of 14.

Pacers 106, Heat 100, OT

In Miami, Jamaal Tinsley scored 30 points, including a jumper to force overtime, and Reggie Miller hit a pair of 3-pointers in the extra session to help Indiana win its first meeting with Miami since last season's Eastern Conference semifinals.

Tinsley hit an awkward shot over Miami's Keyon Dooling to tie the game with 0.9 seconds left in regulation.

Bucks 89, Pistons 86

In Milwaukee, Mike James scored 20 points and the Bucks beat Detroit when Richard Hamilton missed a desperation 3-pointer at the buzzer.

Tayshaun Prince tied his career high with 26 points, set Monday night at Phoenix, but managed only a 3-pointer in the fourth quarter for Detroit, which lost its second straight after winning six in a row.

Bulls 95, Hawks 85

In Chicago, Kirk Hinrich had 23 points, nine assists and seven rebounds, and Antonio Davis added a season-high 17 points to lead Chicago over Atlanta.

Leading 74-71, Chicago went on a 21-7 run at the start of the fourth quarter. Hinrich scored eight points in the span and hit Eddy Curry for an alley-oop dunk, giving the Bulls a 95-78 lead with 4:25 left in the game.

Timberwolves 112, SuperSonics 107

In Seattle, Wally Szczerbiak scored a season-high 34 points and Kevin Garnett added 24 to lead Minnesota, which had lost eight of their previous nine road games, past Seattle.

The Sonics lost their second straight loss at home.

Nuggets 92, Grizzlies 82

In Denver, Earl Boykins scored 25 points with a season-high 10 assists to help Denver beat Memphis and give interim coach Michael Cooper his first winning streak since taking over Dec. 31.

Boykins set an NBA record in his last game, scoring 15 points in overtime in a win over Seattle.

Lakers 105, Warriors 101

In Los Angeles, Chucky Atkins had 26 points and 10 assists to lead the Los Angeles Lakers over Golden State for the second time in a week.

The Lakers are 3-1 since Kobe Bryant was sidelined by a sprained right ankle Jan. 13.

Spurs 128, Suns 123, OT

In Phoenix, Manu Ginobili scored a career-high 48 points as San Antonio rallied from a 17-point fourth-quarter deficit to hand Phoenix its sixth consecutive loss.

Tim Duncan had 30 points and 19 rebounds for the Spurs, who became the first team to beat Phoenix twice this season. *AP*

NBA on Solar

Allen Iverson and the Philadelphia Sixers try to strengthen their grip of the top spot in the Atlantic Division when they face Steve Francis and the Orlando Magic in the NBA today.

Solar Sports will air the Philadelphia-Orlando game live from Orlando, Florida at 10 in the morning while RPN-9 will replay it at 9 p.m.

Fresh from back-to-back victories, the Sixers are holding a precarious 18-20 record, just half a game ahead of the Boston Celtics.

The Magic, on the other hand, are coming off a setback against the Houston Rockets, 99-108.

Injured Bryant off crutches

LOS ANGELES—Kobe Bryant was off crutches Friday for the first time since spraining his right ankle, but remained uncertain when he will be able to play for the Lakers again.

Asked if he might be ready to go when Los Angeles hosts San Antonio on Feb. 3, Bryant replied, "That will be a fun one. Hopefully, I'll have a couple of games under my belt."

Lakers coach Rudy Tomjanovich noted Bryant's arrival.

"I saw him sliding in here. It wasn't an even gait, but he was without crutches, so that's progress," Tomjanovich said.

Bryant hurt his ankle in the first quarter of the Lakers' win over Cleveland on Jan. 13, and initially was expected to be sidelined for at least two weeks.

A couple of hours before Los Angeles' game against Golden State on Friday night, Bryant was on the court, shooting some baskets from the bench and even taking—and making a few—left-handed shots from halfcourt while holding his injured right foot off the floor.

"I can put pressure on it, but can't push off on it yet," Bryant said. "But I'm getting there. It felt great. You know how much I love the game, so it felt good just to be out there."

Going into the game against the Warriors, his teammates were 2-1 since he went down. Bryant didn't seem surprised they've picked up the slack.

"I said from the beginning that I had no doubt that we'd step up to the plate. The attitude, the atmosphere around here, it's confidence, that swagger that we have," he said. "When we compete in practice, I'm running my mouth all the time talking trash, challenging players." *AP*

Artest to practice with Pacers

INDIANAPOLIS—Indiana Pacers forward Ron Artest will return to practice next week for the first time since being suspended for the remainder of the National Basketball Association season after fighting with Detroit fans in November.

Pacers CEO Donnie Walsh said on Friday that the Pacers have been working with commissioner David Stern and the league to get Artest to practice, but stressed that he has not been reinstated.

"I don't think it's good for him to just be out there," Walsh said.

"He is our player. I think it would be good for him to get back. He wants to practice."

The All-Star could be back with his teammates as early as Monday.

Walsh said the team received the go-ahead to allow Artest to practice about two weeks ago, but the Pacers' glut of road games prevented them from doing so until now.

Walsh said it was important to get Artest back with the team in some way so he did not feel abandoned while sitting out the entire season.

"He's isolated," Walsh said.

"I think it'll be good for him and it will be good for the team."

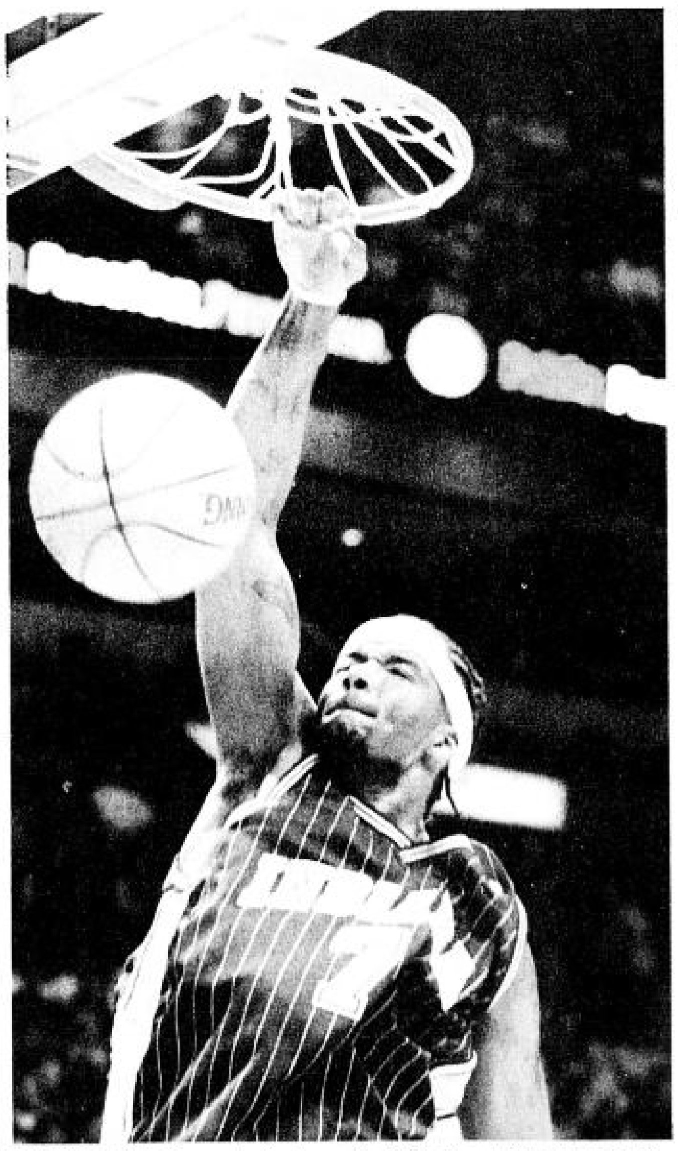
Artest has spent some time in Conseco Fieldhouse working out on his own, and Walsh said he was eager to rejoin his teammates.

He will not be able to attend games or go on road trips.

It was Artest who bolted into the stands after being hit in the face by a cup thrown by a Pistons fan, touching off a nasty brawl between players and fans.

Artest exchanged punches with several fans, as did Stephen Jackson and Jermaine O'Neal.

Jackson was suspended for 30 games and was due to return on Wednesday. O'Neal's 25-game suspension was reduced to 15 by an arbitrator and he has been back since Dec. 25. *AP*



THE INDIANA Pacers, led by Jermaine O'Neal, continue to make do without suspended guard Ron Artest. AP

It's a dog's life in NBA

PORTLAND, Oregon—A dog pooped during halftime of the Detroit-Orlando game. Tracy McGrady is being sued by a man whom his dog bit.

And now this: The Portland Trail Blazers Qyntel Woods on Friday, the same day he pleaded guilty in court to abusing his dog.

Woods had been on the Trail Blazers' suspended list since October, when charges of animal abuse surfaced and Woods came under probe for a felony charge that he had participated in or possibly hosted a dog-fighting event.

In Oregon court on Friday, Woods was sentenced to 12 months probation and 80 hours of community service.

"In light of developments, it is clear that the Trail Blazers and Qyntel Woods must part ways," team president Steve Patterson said.

The NBA had their own clash with Woods, who was suspended for five games on October 29 for violating the league's drug program.

A dog relieved himself during the Pistons-Magic game, causing a lot of stink and a few snickers. McGrady, on the other hand, is facing charges after his Rottweiler bit Fred Chamberlin. *AFP*

Youngest champ Diaz retains crown

HOUSTON—Juan Diaz had little trouble defending his WBA lightweight title Friday, stopping Billy Irwin at 1:27 in the ninth round of a lopsided fight.

Diaz, 21, the youngest reigning world champion, got off to a fast start and controlled the action throughout with his devastating left hook.

Diaz (27-0, 12 KOs) dropped Irwin in the second round, staggered him plenty more times and then finished him off with a flurry of punches against the ropes that forced referee Earl Morton to stop the bout.

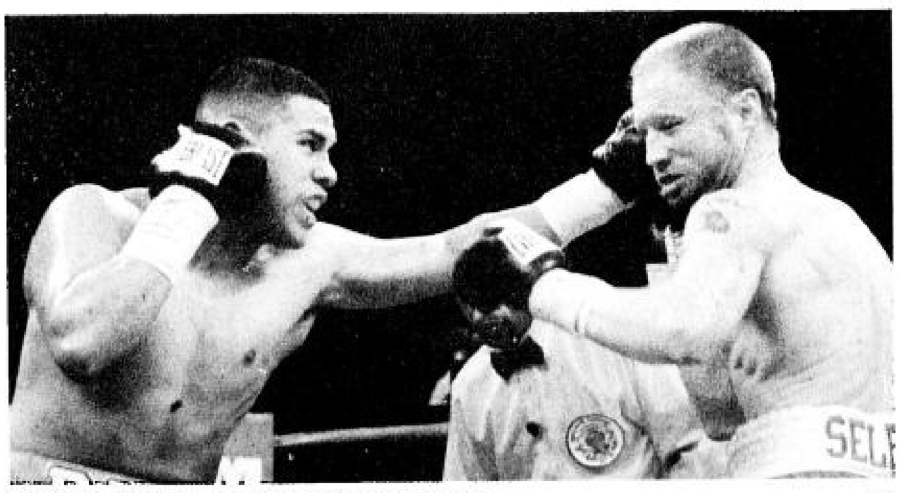
By that time, Irwin (42-6) was squinting through a badly swollen right eye.

"The fight was much easier than I expected," Diaz said. "I was really surprised that I was able to hit him so much."

Diaz, Houston's first world boxing champ since George Foreman regained the heavyweight crown in 1994, was an overwhelming success in his first hometown title defense. The University of Houston's student entered the ring to a rousing standing ovation at the Reliant Center.

Irwin blamed his poor performance on an illness that slowed him over the past week. He briefly thought about calling off the fight but decided against it, realizing that at 36, he might never get another shot at the title.

"I just decided to take my medicine and try to work through it," Irwin said. "People always think that you're making excuses when you say you're sick, but that's not the case. I knew I didn't have it after the first round." *AP*



JUAN Diaz (left) lands a punch on Billy Irwin's face. AP

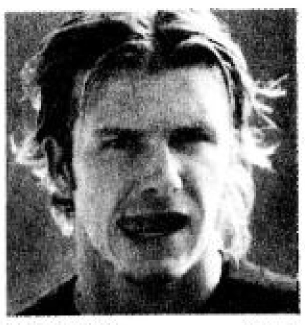
Tsunami aid match tickets now on sale

ZURICH, Switzerland—Tickets have gone on sale for an all-star soccer match in Barcelona to raise money for victims of the Indian Ocean tsunami, FIFA said on Friday.

Tickets for the Feb. 15 match, which will kick off at 9 p.m. local time, cost $13-38 and are available online or by telephone, the world governing body said in a statement.

All proceeds from the "Football for Hope" match will be donated to the Tsunami Solidarity Fund set up by FIFA and the Asian Football Confederation.

FIFA Player of the Year Ronaldinho and European player of the year Andriy Shevchenko will captain the two sides. Other stars invited to take part include Brazil's Ronaldo, England's David Beckham and Frenchman Zinedine Zidane of Real Madrid. *AP*



BECKHAM REUTERS

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Sunday SPORTS

Editor **Teddyvic S. Melendres**

Text us your feedback: inquirer sprt name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Reyes keeps One Pocket Division title

REYES: Back to his winning ways

EFREN "Bata" Reyes outclassed former US Open champion Corey Deuel, 3-1, Saturday to keep his One Pocket Division title in the Derby City Classic at the Executive West Hotel in Louisville, Kentucky.

The 50-year-old Filipino ace won the top purse of $10,000 as he exacted revenge on the West Jefferson, Ohio native, who beat him in the UPA Pro Tour championships early this month.

Deuel went on to rule the Pro Tour event with Reyes finishing fourth.

Reyes, known as possibly the best One Pocket Player in the game today, reached the finals with close wins over countryman and US-based Jose "Amang" Parica, Bank Pool champion David Matlock (3-2) and Tony Chohan (3-2) of the United States.

Deuel received the $5,000 runner-up prize.

Next up for Reyes, from Angeles, Pampanga, was a match against former five-time champion Johnny "The Scorpion" Archer of the United States in the 9-ball division of the annual Derby City Classic being held in the hometown of boxing legend and former world champion Muhammad Ali.

Other matches include Francisco "Django" Bustamante against Mika "The Iceman" Immonen of Finland, Corey Deuel against Parica, Santos Sambajon against Troy Frank, Danny "Delicious" Basavich against Shawn Putnam and Earl "The Pearl" Strickland against Dennis Hatch. *Marlon Bernardino, Contributor*

Wizards extend magical run; Montaña trips Granny Goose

By Jasmine W. Payo

COACH Koy Banal confessed he got nervous.

But his Magnolia-FEU overcame Welcoat Paints' gritty comeback to win, 61-54, and take a 1-0 lead in their PBL Open Championship semifinal series yesterday at the UST Gym.

"I'd be a hypocrite if I didn't say I was nervous," said Banal after the Wizards extended their winning streak to 10 games. "This confirmed that we are capable of going to the finals again."

Jason Misolas carried the scoring load for the Wizards with 16 points.

Montaña Pawnshop also took the lead in its own best-of-three semifinal series after the Jewels outhustled Granny Goose, 74-66.

"We were able to show character," said Jewels coach Robert Sison. "Granny Goose is in the semis because they play rugged and physical defense. *Pero sinabayan namin sila*. They were able to play good defense but we were able to execute our game plan."

Al Magpayo paced the Jewels' balanced offense with 14 points, while veteran Alex Compton added 13.

Magnolia-FEU held a slim 49-48 advantage in the final five minutes, but a Marvin Ortiguerra triple swung the lead back to Welcoat, 51-49.

The Wizards came back with six unanswered points for a 56-51 buffer with only 51.6 seconds remaining. Then the defending champions kept their composure by sinking five of their six freethrows in the closing seconds.

Magnolia-FEU opened the second half with a 32-18 advantage but Welcoat crept within a point, 32-31, after a 13-0 outburst. An Anthony Washington jam gave the Paintmasters a brief lead, 40-39.

GAMES TUESDAY
(*Makati Coliseum*)
2 p.m.—Magnolia-FEU vs Welcoat
4p.m.—Montaña vs Granny Goose

Magpayo helped set the tone early as Montaña posted its first double-digit cushion, 36-26, in the second quarter.

But the Jewels did most of the damage in the third period as they poured in their points at the perimeter for a 55-42 advantage and the lead went up to 17 points, 67-50.

Magpayo was ejected early in the fourth period after a cheap shot at Jireh Ibañes. This woke up the Tortillos momentarily as they closed in to within 70-60. But careless ball handling doomed the Tortillos down the stretch.

Granny Goose committed 31 turnovers compared to Montaña's 13.

JR Quiñahan single-handedly carried the Tortillos with 18 points and 16 rebounds.

The scores:

First game

MONTAÑA 74—Magpayo 14, Compton 13, Espiritu 10, Salvador 8, Juntilla 7, Dela Cuesta 6, Capus 4, Baguion 4, Mercado 3, Guerrrero 3, Vergara 2.

GRANNY GOOSE 66—Quiñahan 18, Ybañes 11, Grijaldo 8, Almeda 5, Latonio 5, Capati 4, Cruz 4, A. Santos 4, Concha 3, Cervantes 2, David 2, Lanete 0, V. Santos 0, Larong 0, Mangubat 0.

Quarters: 16-14, 40-33, 62-49, 74-66.

Second game

MAGNOLIA-FEU 61—Misolas 16, Catli 9, Santos 7, Ybañez 7, Miranda 6, Jones 6, Rizada 4, Isip 4, Raneses 2, Co 0.

WELCOAT 54—Ortiguerra 18, Washington 12, Tolomia 10, Sta. Maria 7, Reyes 2, Najorda 2, Dy 2, Tan 1, Gamboa 0, Estrada 0.

Quarters: 16-8, 30-18, 47-43, 61-5.

Republic of the Philippines
Province of Zambales
MUNICIPALITY OF PALAUIG

OFFICE OF THE BAC CHAIRMAN
INVITATION TO BID

January 23, 2005
World Bank/IBRD Loan No. 7152-PH

The Government of the Philippines has received a loan from International Bank for Reconstruction and Development towards the cost of ARCDPII and intends to apply part of the funds to cover eligible payments under the following contract located at Barangays Anakbulo and Mabuco, Municipality of Palauig, Province of Zambales. The Bidding is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the Guidelines Procurement under IBRD Loan and IDA Credits.

The Municipality of Palauig, Province of Zambales and implementing partner of DAR for ARCDPII invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the Rehabilitation of 6.839 kms. Anakbulo-Mabuco Road under Contract No. RIRR 04 04601 BUL-Z

Project Durations	148 Calendar Days
Bidding Documents	PHP 5,000.00
Minimum Bid Security	PHP 250,000.00
Bid Closing Date	February 24, 2005 Time: 2:00 PM

DESCRIPTION OF WORKS

Item No.	Scope of Works	Quantity	Unit
10	Clearing & Grubbing	41,034.00	Sq.M
14(2)	Embankment Using Borrow Materials	24,330.15	Cu.M.
20	Aggregate Sub-base Course	4,103.40	Cu.M
21	Aggregate Base Course	4,103.40	Cu.M.
43	Reinforcing Steel Bar (RCBC)	2,884.00	Kgs.
44	Structural Concrete Class A (RCBC)	25.00	Cu.M.
50(2)	Installation of 450 mm. dia RCPC w/ HW	42.00	Ln.M.
50(3)	Installation of 600 mm. dia RCPC w/ HW	138.00	Ln.M.
50(4)	Installation of 900 mm. dia RCPC w/ HW	78.00	Ln.M.
51(3)	Grouted Riprap	73.00	Cu.M

Minimum Equipments Required

Bulldozer (1 unit) – owned. Road Roller Vibratory Compactor (9 ton min. 1 unit) – owned. Road Grader (1 unit) – owned. Loader (1 unit) – owned. Dump Truck (4 units) – owned. Backhoe (1 unit) - owned or lease. Water Truck (1 unit) – owned. survey instruments-leased/owned.

A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by the interested bidders at the BAC Secretariat Office of the Municipality of Palauig, Province of Zambales starting January 24, 2005 from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. upon payment of a non-refundable fee of PhP 5,000.00 for each set. Pre-bid conference will be held in the same address on February 08, 2005 at 2:00 P.M.

Bids shall be valid for a period of 90 days after Bid opening and must be accompanied by a security deposit of Php 250,000.00 in form, Cash, Certified Check, Manager's Check, Bank Guarantee, on a free convertible currency, and shall be delivered to Bid closing date on February 24, 2005 at 2:00 P.M. at which time the Bids will be opened in the presence of Bidders who wish to attend.

The LGU-BAC ARCDPII of Palauig, Zambales reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any defect or formality, assume no obligation whatsoever to compensate indemnity to the contractor/bidder for any expenses that they may incur in the preparation of bid and to accept the lowest evaluated, responsive and complying bid.

(Sgd.) MELINDA F. REYES
Chairman, LGU-BAC, ARCDPII

(PDI - January 23, 2005)

NBC PANASONIC

Spring Oil, Tribu tangle for crown

CEBU CITY—Spring Cooking Oil-backed Laguna Spring whipped inaugural champion Tribu Sugbu, 89-83, Friday night to set up a title showdown with the Cebuanos in the NBC Panasonic pre-season basketball tournament at the Guadalupe Sports Complex here.

The Spring of NBC president Nathaniel "Tac" Padilla and Laguna Gov. Teresita "Ningning" Lazaro were disputing the crown at press time last night.

Over at the Cordova Sports Complex, Mayor Freddie Tinga's Forward Taguig finally broke into the win column by crushing Cebu Basketball Federation grand slam champion General Feeds Masters, 87-63.

The Cooking Oil Masters and the Skygo/Sirilitz-backed Tribes finished the eliminations of the short series sponsored by Panasonic, Sulpicio Lines, Molten, Nature's Spring and Cebu's JY Square Discovery Mall with 2-1 records, while Taguig and General Feeds tied at 1-2.

After a 48-48 halftime deadlock, Spring came out smoking in the third canto as spitfire guard Mar Reyes scored 10 in an 18-8 run to make it 66-54. Spring posted its biggest lead at 89-74 with four minutes remaining.

But the Tribes mounted a fierce rally behind Russ Neil Paglinawan only to run out of time.

"We nearly collapsed in the end but my team showed character," said Laguna coach Vic "Rambo" Sanchez. "I hope we can do it twice in a row."

The Scores:

First Game

LAGUNA 89—M. Reyes 23, Manuel 12, Roda 11, Caceres 11, Alminario 8, Proceso 6, Kalaw 6, Corbin 4, Garcia 4, Vivero 2, Lingal 0, Santos 0, Dalino 0, Alejar 0, Tolentino 0.

TRIBU 83—Guerrero 17, Akad 15, Sampilo 11, Paglinawan 10, Berame 5, Abalong 4, Esperat 3, Calo 3, Arda 2, Tuadles 2, Cabanea 0.

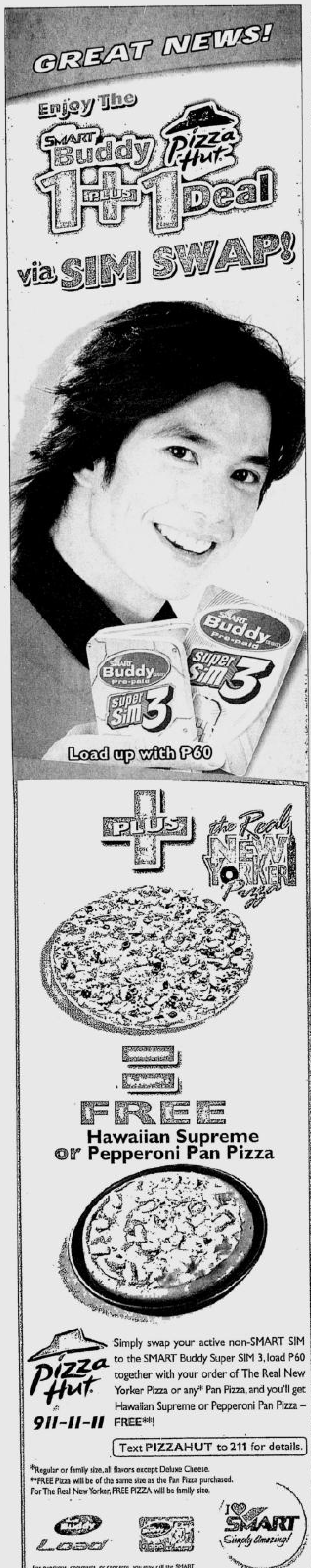
Quarterscores: 27-21, 48-48, 75-63, 89-83.

Second Game

TAGUIG 87—Cruz 14, Acion 10, Magsambol 9, De Castro 8, Marucot 8, Zablan 7, Nuqui 7, De Guia 6, Gonzales 6, Gandarosa 5, Alberto 3, Constantino 3, J. Reyes 2, Vilar 2.

GEN. FEEDS 63—Caingiel 15, Saladaga 11, Clar 7, Luga 6, Bucao 5, Rodriguez 4, Sevilla 3, Elim 2, Ababon 2, Magsumbol 2, Caliz 0, Balague 0, U. Reyes 0, Mepena 0.

Quarterscores: 15-10, 40-24, 62-39, 87-63.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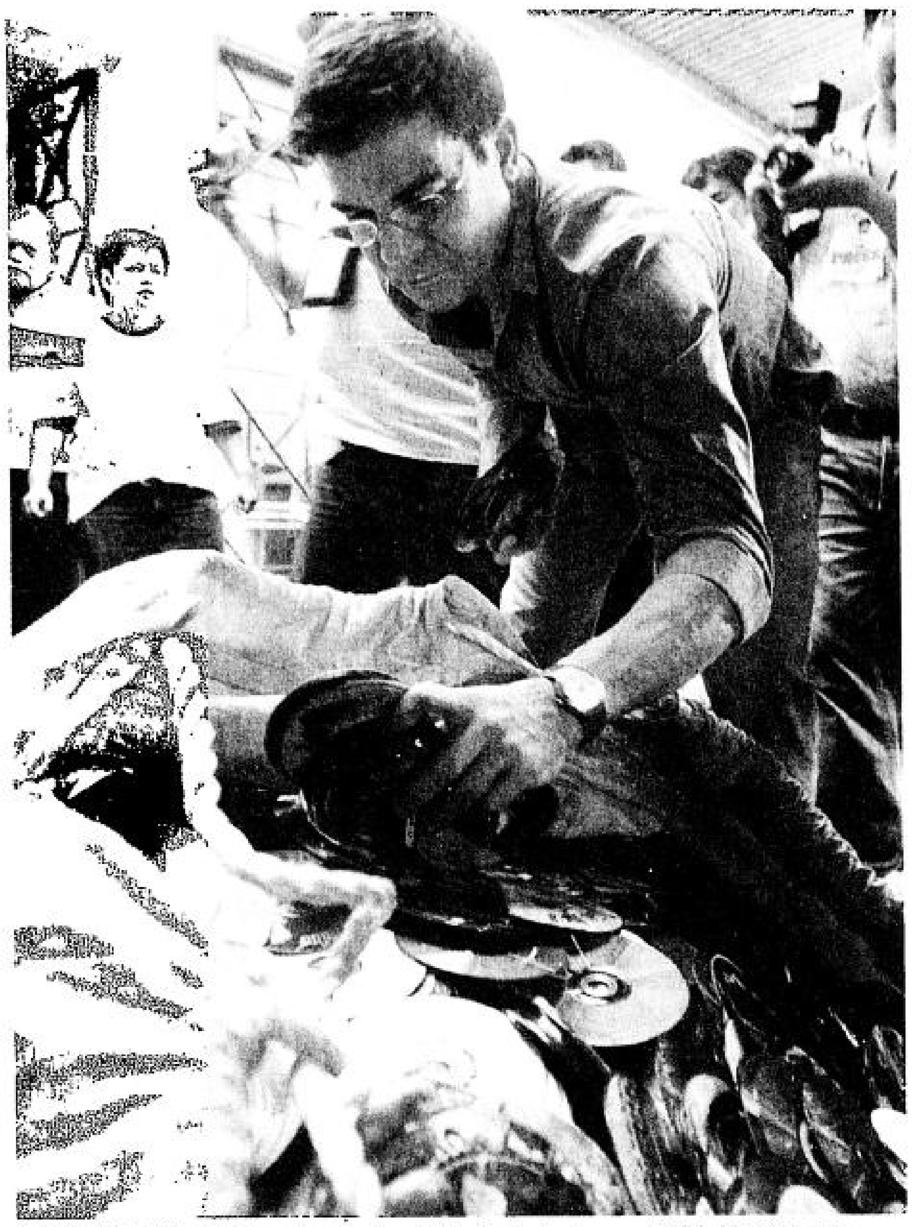


NO RETREAT. He won't let pirates wipe out the film industry, vows OMB chair Manzano.

OMB has only ₱26M to fight pirates, who deprive the industry of billions

By Nini Valera

THE MOVIE industry is losing P3 billion a year in its potential volume from theatrical releases to pirated video products, reducing the potential size of the industry from P7 billion to only P4 billion a year.

This reflects a potential income loss of P1.26 billion a year for local movie producers.

Hollywood movies shown in the Philippines lose to fake products about 70 percent of their potential income, or about P1.8 billion a year, from theater releases.

On the first day of a movie's theatrical run, the film already loses about 30 percent of its potential earnings to pirated copies, which are usually available on the second day of the movie's showing.

Pirated copies of all eight Metro Manila Film Festival entries last month were already in the market on the fourth day of the festival.

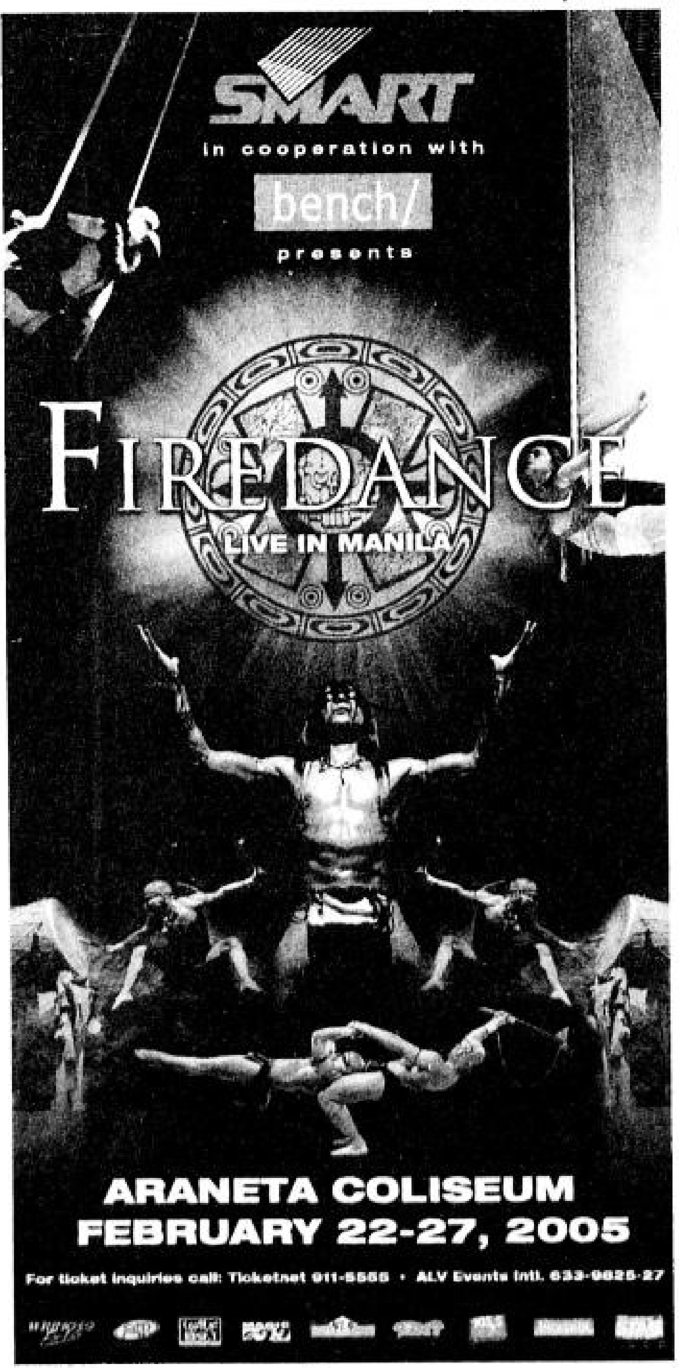
Producers lose an additional P4.9 billion a year in their video releases, showing only P1.4 billion in actual income from a potential industry size of P6.3 billion.

240 to 60

These figures, culled by the Optical Media Board (OMB) from data gathered last year, show that piracy has reduced the capacity of the movie industry, which in its peak produced about 240 films a year, to as low as 30 percent of its potential market size, or down to 60 movies a year.

If the trend continues, the local movie in-

OMB/ A2-2



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JAN 21, 05 - 06 22 30 04 13 14 18

PREVIOUS WINNING COMBINATIONS:

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week 2
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NOV 25, 04 - 20 10 03 15 14 23 01
NOV 26, 04 - 10 09 17 01 30 04 28
NOV 27, 04 - 11 10 15 18 25 17 29

week 3
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DEC 4, 04 - 15 02 19 11 16 06 20

week 4
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OMB has only ₱26M . . .

From page A2-1

dustry would be wiped out by piracy in the next few years. But actor Edu Manzano, who chairs the OMB, said he is not about to let that happen during his watch.

With only P26 million a year to fight the pirates, Manzano claimed he has made inroads in busting illegal activities that operate on a network involving Hong Kong, Taiwan, Malaysia, Indonesia, among other countries, with Singapore as a transshipment point.

Manzano said that recently, he crippled piracy's Manado, Indonesia, connection, which is responsible for smuggling into the Philippines pirated products through the backdoor airport in Davao City.

"We were the first ones to discover the Manado connection," Manzano said. "We knew when they were coming in. They were chartering airplanes already. They would come in by Bouracq or Merkati Air, and we were in a position to intercept them as soon as they landed at the airport."

But this didn't come cheap.

Better year?

Manzano said OMB pays assets that provide the agency with information that would lead to busts: There are also other expenses, like transportation and representation, and a living allowance for assets, based on results. Top that with a reward of as much as $10,000 for information that would lead to the uncovering of a big-time piracy operation.

Manzano predicted a better picture of the industry this year.

"Video rentals have gone up," he said. "Movie attendance has gone up. At the same time, we have made it harder for the pirates to do business, so the price of pirated products has gone up because it's getting harder for them to bring these out in the market."

Last December, the OMB relentlessly went after traders of pirated products in Quiapo, Virra Mall and Makati Cinema Square.

"We were raiding them practically every other day," Manzano said. "But people tell us that the pirates would return three or four hours later after the raid. They would be selling rejects, products not as good as those that we have seized during our raids. So we've made it harder for them to sell their products."

Violent raids

Raids like these, however, had resulted in indirect violence against consumers, who still insist on quality even in bogus products.

Manzano related that the 12-year-old daughter of Parañaque resident Bong Aguiluz was hurt by vendors of pirated products in BF mall when they tried to get back their money after they were given low-quality video discs.

"This is actually documented," said Manzano. "Aguiluz and his children bought five to six discs, which they found defective. They returned to the seller the following day to return the discs and get their money back. The seller wanted to exchange the discs, but Aguiluz wanted his money back.

"The pirates turned to his children. While holding back Aguiluz, they beat up his kids. They hit his 12-year-old daughter with a steel pipe, and she ended up in the hospital."

Aguiluz filed frustrated murder charges against the men who beat up his children, according to Manzano.

The OMB law actually penalizes buyers of pirated products, but Manzano said they have chosen not to implement this aspect of the law and have concentrated on going after the pirates.

How to make them legal

"Actually, I have sat down with pirates and tried to find out how we can make them legal," Manzano revealed. "We have been magnanimous with them. We've tried helping them put up a cooperative. We've tried to compromise with them on how they could make a living. But it's not working.

"How do you justify selling counterfeit goods to feed your family if you're wearing a Rolex?

"You can't come to me and say your family is eating just one meal a day when you're wearing a gold bracelet and gold necklace. They do not fit the profile.

"We used to feel sorry for them before. But now, we see their inventory of pirated products, and these are in the millions. They are actually doing very, very well in their illegal business."

The seizure of products and replicating equipment of big pirates like Ricky Hu and Simon Chua in Cubao, Quezon City, last year was also a big blow to piracy operations, according to Manzano.

OMB/ A2-6

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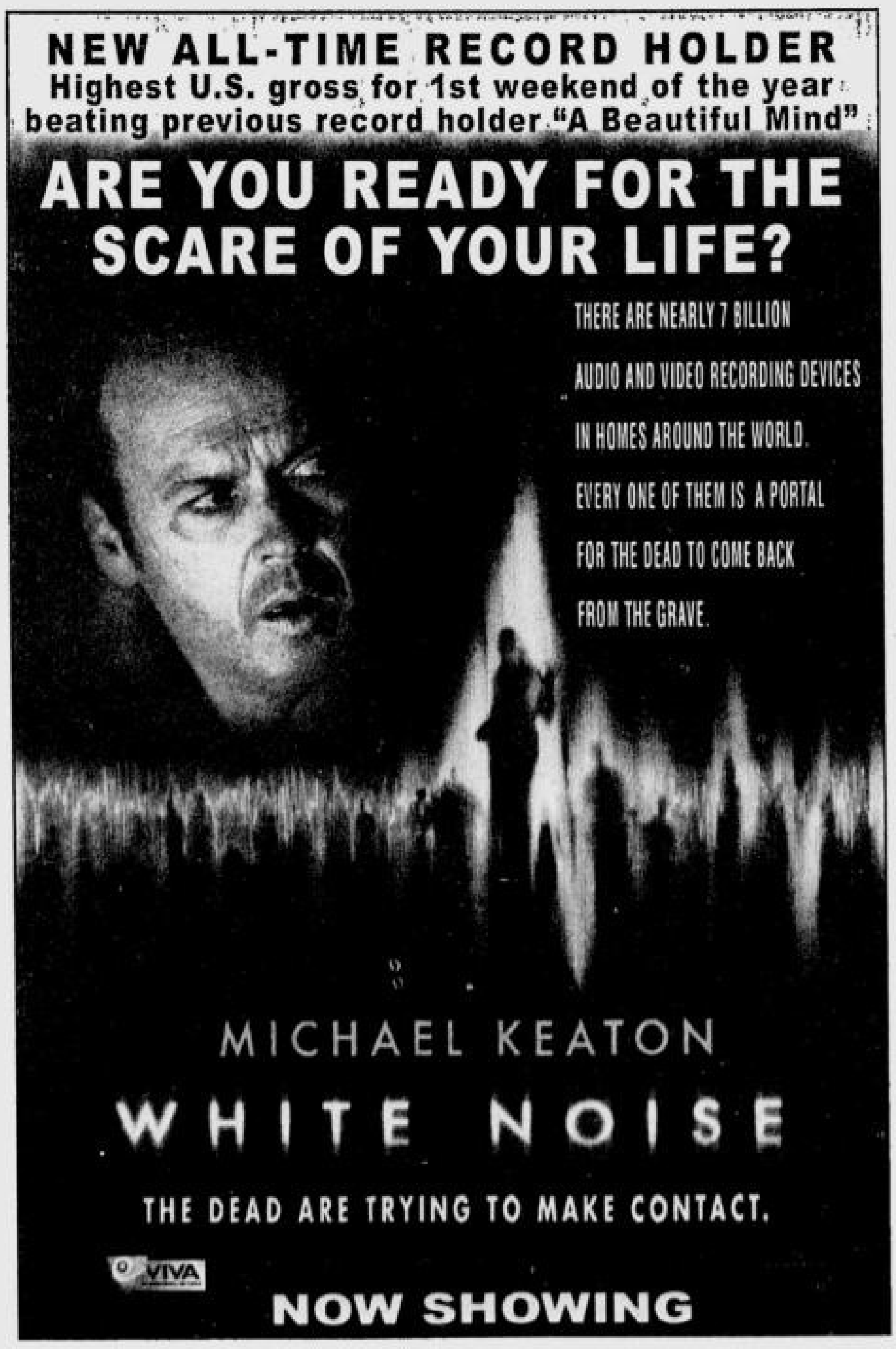
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Having fabulous lips doesn't mean you have to spend a lot on lipstick or just dream away to achieve that LIP FANTASY. You can keep lips kissable with sexy, alluring lip color and finishes at affordable lip-smacking prices ONLY from Maybelline New York!

Check out their bestsellers, along with some luscious –

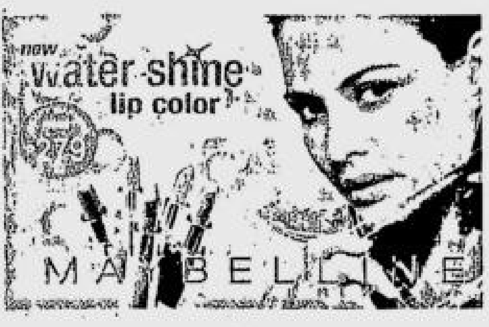
LipTips

Choose a color that complements the natural shade of your lips and skin. Plums, wines and deep reds flatter a dark skin tone, while light-brown beiges with pink or orange undertones complement a lighter skin tone. Maybelline Watershine 3D offers 8 different shades so you can easily spot the color that suits your skin tone.

Keep colors lighter for daytime and darker for night. Matte and cream finishes offer a subtler daytime look, while a high-gloss finish adds glamour for evening. A sheer, natural-looking color with a little shine also works well for day. With Maybelline, you don't have to spend on two different lipsticks for daytime and evening use. Try using Water Shine lipcolor. A light, single stroke of Water Shine gives you subtle sheer, while 3 to 4 layers will make your lips more dazzling – perfect for glamorous evening parties.

NEW
Water Shine ICE
MAYBELLINE

Experiment. Head to your local department store and ask a Maybelline Beauty Adviser to test different shades on your lips. Whenever possible, check in natural light to see how the color really looks with your complexion.



Create your own shade by combining colors. If the shades you find don't completely satisfy you, mix your own color. The easiest way to do this is by applying each color to your lips with a lip brush, then blending with the brush on your lips.

Fruity Jelly
Lip Gloss

You don't have to spend a lot on lipstick to have fabulous-looking lips. Try Maybelline's line of luscious colors at lip-smacking prices!

Choose a color that blends well with your outfit. Soft colors are suited for light-colored, casual wear. So if you're in the mood to be sweet and girly, just top your lips with Maybelline Fruity Jelly lip gloss to get that fresh, gleaming look. Vibrant shades look striking in chic, sophisticated ensembles, so if you're ready to sizzle and dazzle, glam up with Maybelline Water Shine Ice lipcolor. Feel like flashing your funky side? Match your style with Maybelline Forever Metallics lipstick and you'll be oozing with metallic charm.

Opt for a lip liner that is a shade darker than your lipstick and in the same color family. This will make your lips look fuller. Line lips after applying lipstick. That way you won't end up with a dark circle of lip liner after your lipstick has worn off. Check out Maybelline Line 'N Design Lip Liner for only P299 and get that full and pouty lips that will make you oh-so-kissable.

You don't have to spend a lot on lipstick to have fabulous-looking lips. Try Maybelline's line of luscious colors at lip-smacking prices! With Maybelline New York, beauty comes natural because you're born with it.

NEW
forever metallics
349
MAYBELLINE
NEW YORK

TIPS PICKS

I like Water Shine because the shine is blinding and it feels great on the lips!
Lip Tip: When choosing a color, bite your lips and choose a shade that's close to it.

- Celine Lopez
Fashion Editor

I really like Water Shine Ice in Chilled Lychee. It smells really good, and it has a minty feel on the lips.
Lip Tip: Always moisturize your lips with lip balm before putting on any lipcolor. For young girls, it's better to use lipsticks with lighter shades.

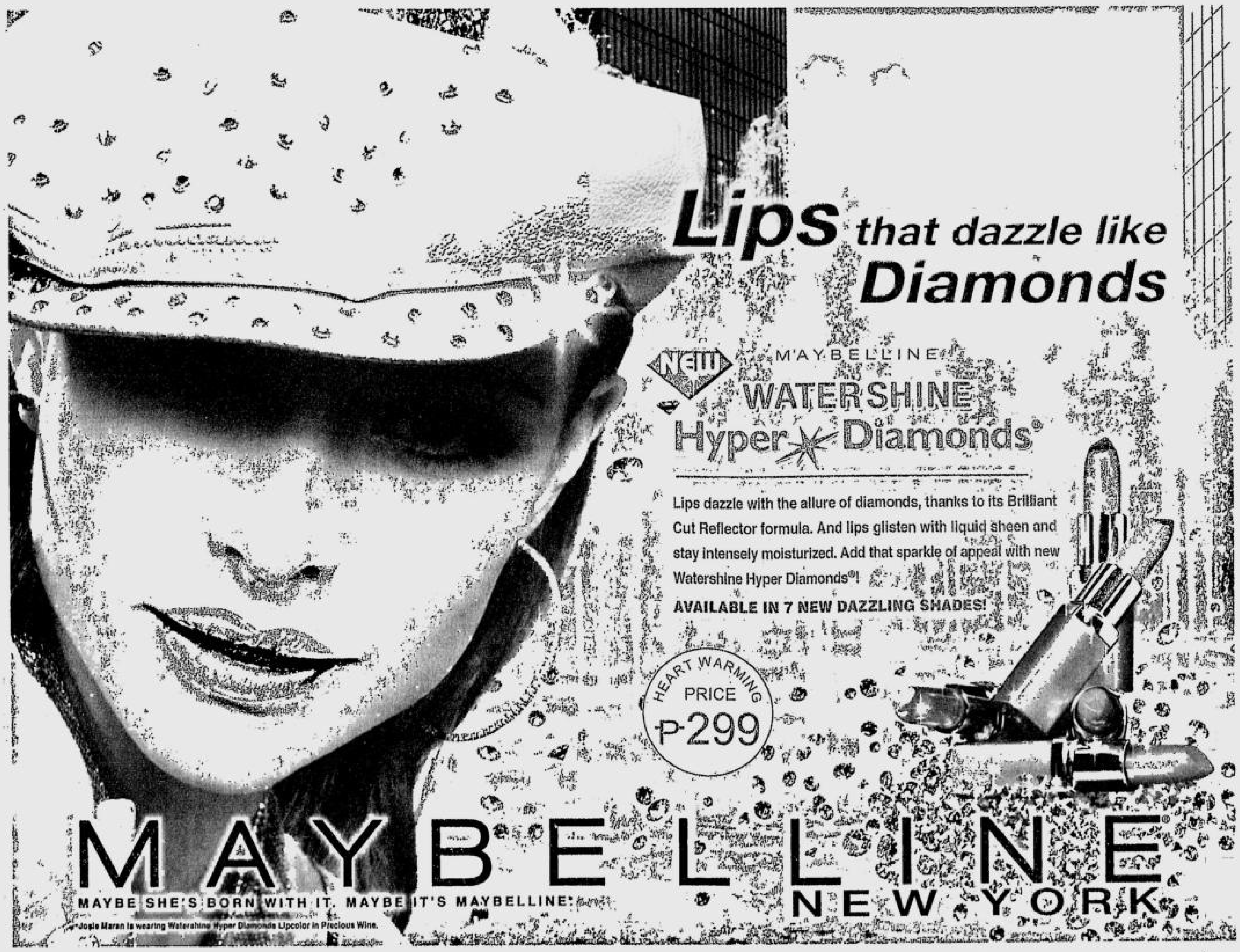
- Ines Bautista
Editor-in-Chief, Candy Magazine

My fave lipstick is the Water Shine Hyper Diamonds line. It's like 2 in 1 – lipstick and gloss. If you put one layer, it acts like a gloss. If two or more, it's lipstick with gloss already.
Lip Tip: Don't be afraid to experiment with colors. That's the good thing about makeup. It's not permanent. If you don't like it, you can erase and change it.

- Barbi Chan
Makeup Artist

Choose your Maybelline Lipstick

- Watershine Hyper Diamonds - Take shine to a new level by emphasizing lips that dazzle like diamonds with new Watershine Hyper Diamonds! Get that diamond-like sparkle and glossy shine while moisturizing your lips.
- Water Shine - Juicy, glossy color in one sleek stick. Water Shine has no sticky feel. Apply once to achieve natural-looking lips for your day look and apply 3 to 4 times for that glamorous evening look.
- Forever Metallics - Make an impact with outrageously vibrant, long-lasting metallic lip finish with Forever Metallics, an innovative mix of high shine pearlescent spheres add amazing, luminous sheen to your lips. Forget the flashy jewelry or accessories, Forever Metallics is the only thing you need if you want to flash your funky side!
- Fruity Jelly - Get sexy, luscious-looking lips with just one application of Fruity Jelly Lip Gloss on top of your favorite matte or satin lipstick!
- Lip Smooth - A lip balm that hydrates and comforts dry and chapped lips. Protects and conditions for soft, smooth lips giving your lips a sheer, shiny finish.
- Water Shine Ice - Refreshing cool lip gloss that is lightweight in texture glides on smooth, never feels sticky that keeps lips feeling cool and fresh. Glossy color with a hint of mint.
- Moisture Whip - Moisturizing your lips has never been this easy and affordable! With just one glide of Moisture Whip, lips are drenched with 66% moisturizers and conditioners.
- Water Shine 3D - No need to go to an expensive derma clinic to plump up those lips, Water Shine 3D makes your lips plumper than ever with just one application!



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MAYBELLINE
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MAYBE SHE'S BORN WITH IT. MAYBE IT'S MAYBELLINE.

Josie Maran is wearing Watershine Hyper Diamonds Lipcolor in Precious Wine.

'Fame' fields exceptionally talented semifinalists

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

WE HAD such a good time watching the first telecast of the new talent search show "Fame" (Saturday nights on the ETC channel) that we made it a point to catch its second telecast. The field of 24 semifinalists had been divided into groups of six, and the first six competed against each other in the show's second telecast.

They were each given a full song and dance number to perform, and then they performed together in a finale number before the panel of three celebrity judges chose the three "survivors" who would advance to the final group of 12.

Well, the six semifinalists in the second telecast were so good that it was really difficult to choose only three. On point of contrast, throughout the finals of last year's "American Idol," **Fantasia Barrino** was our favorite from the very start.

But, the first batch of "Fame" semi-finalists were much harder to rank in order of relative excellence, because they were all outstanding. When the talent search gets to its finals, the judges will really have to crack their skulls to pick just one grand champion from such an exceptionally talented field.

Shannon, the first semifinalist to perform solo last week, set the stage on fire with her impressive combination of sexy looks, great singing voice, and sultry moves. After she performed, it was clear that she was a strong bet to end up among the surviving three talents in her group of six.

She was followed by **Danny**, who was tall, good-looking and sang well, but seemed diffident in his dance moves.

Mackenzie was a beautiful girl who sang and danced very well. Her unique combination of strengths was compromised only by her costume, which looked too fussy for the number she was performing.

She was followed by **Alex**, a good-looking young man who had a distinctively natural voice and manner. He was less gung-ho in his performance, and we liked his soft-sell attitude, which provided a welcome breather from the "powerhouse" singing and dancing that most of the other talents resorted to.

The first Asian-American semi-finalist, **Judy**, sang and danced well, but looked rather nervous and skittish. Uh-oh ...

The last semifinalist to perform, **Gary**, was a tall African-American with great charisma going for him, aside from his outstanding dancing and singing abilities. Clearly, another strong contender!

And the survivors were? Our best bets were Shannon, Mackenzie and Gary—but the celebrity jurors chose Shannon, Alex and Gary. Well, two out of three isn't disastrous.

This Saturday, six more semifinalists will have their chance to strut their stuff, and we'll be watching.

Reader's question: Is there a Fil-American among the 24 "triple

'FAME'/A2-5

MOVIE GUIDE

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3 (DTS)	ONE MISSED CALL
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2	HELLWOLF
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4 (DTS)	OCEAN'S TWELVE

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3 GEORGE AND THE DRAGON
4 OUT OF REACH
5 THE SIN
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1 MEET THE FOCKERS	1 WHITE NOISE	1 WHITE NOISE	1 GUARANTEED SEATS MEET THE FOCKERS 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:00, 12:00	1 WHITE NOISE
2 OCEAN'S 12	2 MADHOUSE	2 OCEAN'S 12	2 GUARANTEED SEATS MEET THE FOCKERS 12:50, 3:20, 5:50, 8:20, 10:50	2 KUNG FU HUSTLE
3 MEET THE FOCKERS	3 MEET THE FOCKERS	3 GUARANTEED SEATS MEET THE FOCKERS [illegible]	3 GUARANTEED SEATS OCEAN'S 12 1:30, 4:00, 6:30, 9:00, 11:30	3 NED KELLY
4 KUNG FU HUSTLE	4 KUNG FU HUSTLE	4 RAISE YOUR VOICE	4 GUARANTEED SEATS KUNG FU HUSTLE 2:55, 5:00, 7:05, 9:10, 11:15	4 OCEAN'S 12
5 WHITE NOISE		5 KUNG FU HUSTLE	5 GUARANTEED SEATS WHITE NOISE 2:35, 4:45, 6:55, 9:05, 11:15	5
		6 MEET THE FOCKERS		
		7 BLADE: TRINITY		

GB1 GREENBELT 1
1 WHITE NOISE 12:50, 3:00, 5:10, 7:20, 9:30
2 MEET THE FOCKERS 12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10

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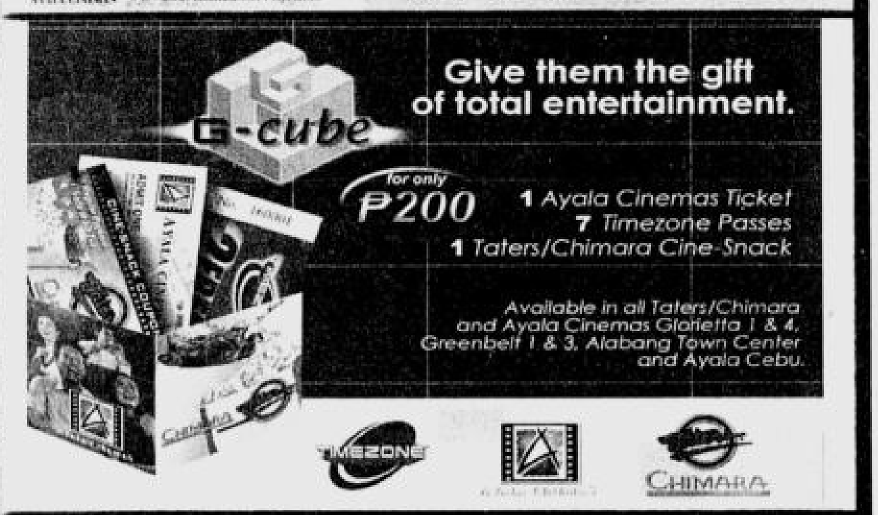

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‘Don’t make an issue out of my breakup with Lei’

By Marinel R. Cruz

ALTHOUGH Marvin Agustin said he and former girlfriend Lei Atienza "parted as friends" last November, they have not talked since, the actor and TV host admitted.

"We're both busy," Marvin told entertainment reporters over lunch last Friday. "My schedule has been terribly crazy since December."

Marvin, 25, and Lei, 23, daughter of Manila Mayor Lito Atienza, met and fell in love nine months ago. But Marvin said they later broke up "because of a lot of factors."

"But we're okay," he claimed. "The breakup was a mutual decision. I just pray that people around us would not make a big issue out of it."

Marvin said he wants give his heart a rest and concentrate on show biz.

"I don't have a love life right now," he said. "And yes, I still care for her. It's not that easy to forget. We were on for nine months. I even met her dad."

DICK and Amy

Marvin said that just recently, he also met the US-based boyfriend of Jolina Magdangal, his former love-team partner and real-life girlfriend. He described the meeting as "awkward and weird."

"I saw them at the gym," he related. "Jolens [Jolina's nickname] introduced his boyfriend to me. I'm very happy for her. I know how hard it is to look for that special someone who understands the demands of show business.

"Jolens and I maintain a good relationship," he added. "We send each other text messages and sometimes we talk. "I know my relationship with Lei would also get to that level. But I also know that there's a time for everything."

Meanwhile, Marvin said, he would rather focus on the new show he would be hosting on ABS-CBN. Starting Jan. 31, he will share hosting chores with comedian Roderick Paulate and Amy Perez on a late-morning show called "Most Requested Show."

Roderick, Amy and Marvin were three of the original hosts of the ABS-CBN noontime show "Magandang Tanghali Bayan." When the show became "Masayang Tanghali Bayan" in February 2002, the three were dropped from the regular cast.

"We're all excited to work together after three years," said Marvin. "I missed the family that we had before.

"I was touched when the network called me up," said Amy, who also hosts the talk show "Diretsahan" on ABC 5. "I enjoyed working with these people on 'MTB.' The three of us, together with Dominic [Ochoa] and Rico [Yan], had been a great team. If we could only make Rico come back, *bakit hindi*? But we can't."

Rico died of hemorrhagic pancreatitis in 2002 while vacationing at the Dos Palmas Resort in Puerto Princesa, Palawan during Holy Week. Dominic is busy taping for a new soap on ABS-CBN.

Amy described "MRS" as a one-hour musical-game-variety show featuring segments like "ATM (Anong Trip Mo)" and "BIR (Barkada Instant Request)."

"We will give to the audience what they request for," she explained, "like if you want to sing with your favorite star or be a superstar yourself.

"When we were doing 'MTB' it was as if we weren't working," said Roderick. "We all had fun. We hope to achieve the same atmosphere in our new show."

STILL FRIENDS, but they haven't talked since the November breakup, says Marvin.

KAMISETA MODEL WINS A GLOBE
Natalie Portman sparkled in the 62nd Golden Globe Awards last Jan. 16 in Beverly Hills, winning the award for Best Supporting Actress in a Drama for her performance in the movie "Closer." The 23-year-old Harvard graduate was first discovered in New York while eating pizza, and she went on to star in "Leon (The Professional)" in 1994. She displayed her talent in more movies such as "Beautiful Girls," "Everyone Says I Love You," "Anywhere But Here," "Where the Heart Is," "Cold Mountain" and as Padme Amidala in the "Star Wars" films. Said to be the Audrey Hepburn of her time, she is also known to be very particular in choosing her roles. Natalie Portman is the current image model of Kamiseta, which happens to be the only clothing brand she has agreed to endorse.

‘Fame’ fields exceptionally talented...

From page A2-4

threat" semifinalists on "Fame"? Not sure, but there is an Asian-American charmer surnamed **Tiangco**. She *could* be Filipino. Sure hope she survives!

Cinema Australia

IN CELEBRATION of Australia's National Day, the Australian Embassy is screening critically acclaimed films from Down Under at the UP Film Institute's Cine Adarna from Jan. 24 to 28, at 7 p.m. The Cinema Australia festival opens with Sue Brooks' "Japanese Story" (2004), starring **Toni Collette**. The Australian Film Institute gave Brooks' film awards for best film, direction, lead actress, editing, cinematography, screenplay and musical score.

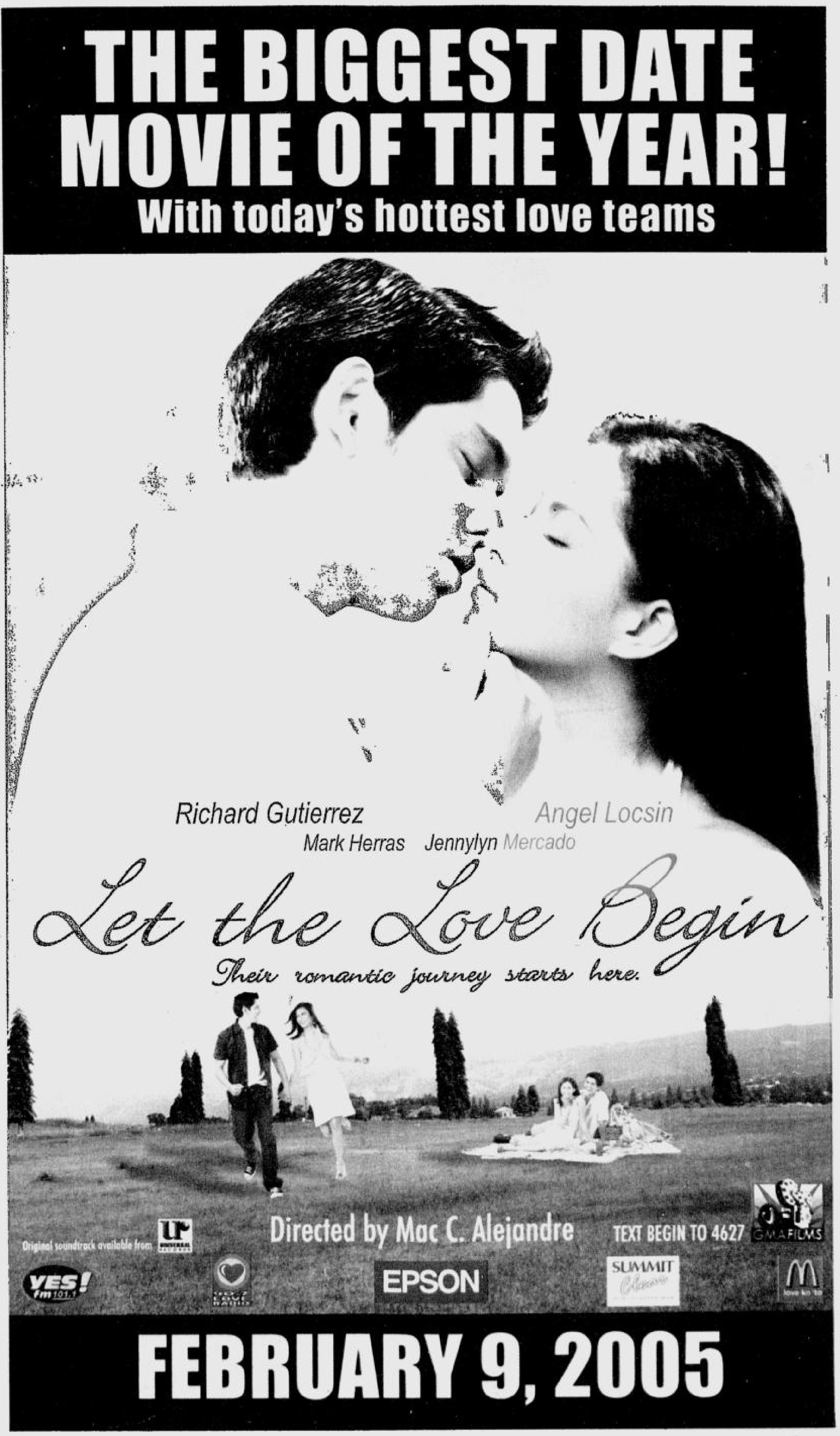
Other films: Jan. 25, **Richard Lowenstein's** "He Died with a Felafel in His Hand" (2001), which won the Grand Jury Prize at the New York International Independent Film and Video Festival. Jan. 26, **Craig Monahan's** "The Interview" (1998). Won Australian awards for best film, screenplay and lead actor.

Jan. 27, **John Duigan's** "The Year My Voice Broke" (1987). Awards for best film, director, screenplay, supporting actor. Jan. 28, Peter Weir's "The Last Wave." Awards for cinematography and sound.

Ryan Cabrera

RYAN Cabrera's "Take It All Away" album has 12 tracks, plus an acoustic version of his hit single, "On the Way Down," a must-see video with **Ashlee Simpson**, and exclusive concert and studio footage.

From the husky falsetto on "True," the Carlos Santana-type stylings on "Shame on Me," to the Ben Folds Five kind of piano playing on "Let's Take Our Time." Cabrera's album proves that he has genuine talent for making music.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OMB has only ₱26M . . .

From page A2-2

"We confiscated no less than P80 million [worth of products and equipment], and that in itself was a major blow to the pirates in terms of capital investment," Manzano said.

Lack of support

He estimated the pirates' investment in their illegal operation at P100 million. "So they're also hurting," he said.

To make it tougher for pirates, Manzano wants piracy to be considered a hard crime and a form of economic sabotage so that the plunder law could take effect.

"Right now, the penalties [for piracy] are very, very light," he said. "But with the passage of the OMB law and the eventual approval of its rules and regulations, it should be another step toward deterring pirates."

Manzano said he is also faced with the lack of law enforcement support to implement the law. "The police are just too busy with kidnaps, smuggling, bank robberies and the like," he said.

Increasing the risks for pirates would also deter their operations, according to Manzano, who appears to be the pirates' biggest risk so far.

Death threats

Death threats have also become part of Manzano's life.

"Do you know that no insurance company wants to give me coverage anymore because of my job?" he said. "They find me a big risk."

This year, he would sit down with his counterparts from other Asian countries during the Asean conference against piracy.

"We're going to find ways of harmonizing, coordinating intelligence gathering," he said. "We are going to strengthen our efforts against the pirates. We can't let them go on if we want the movie industry to survive."

Feud with Bong

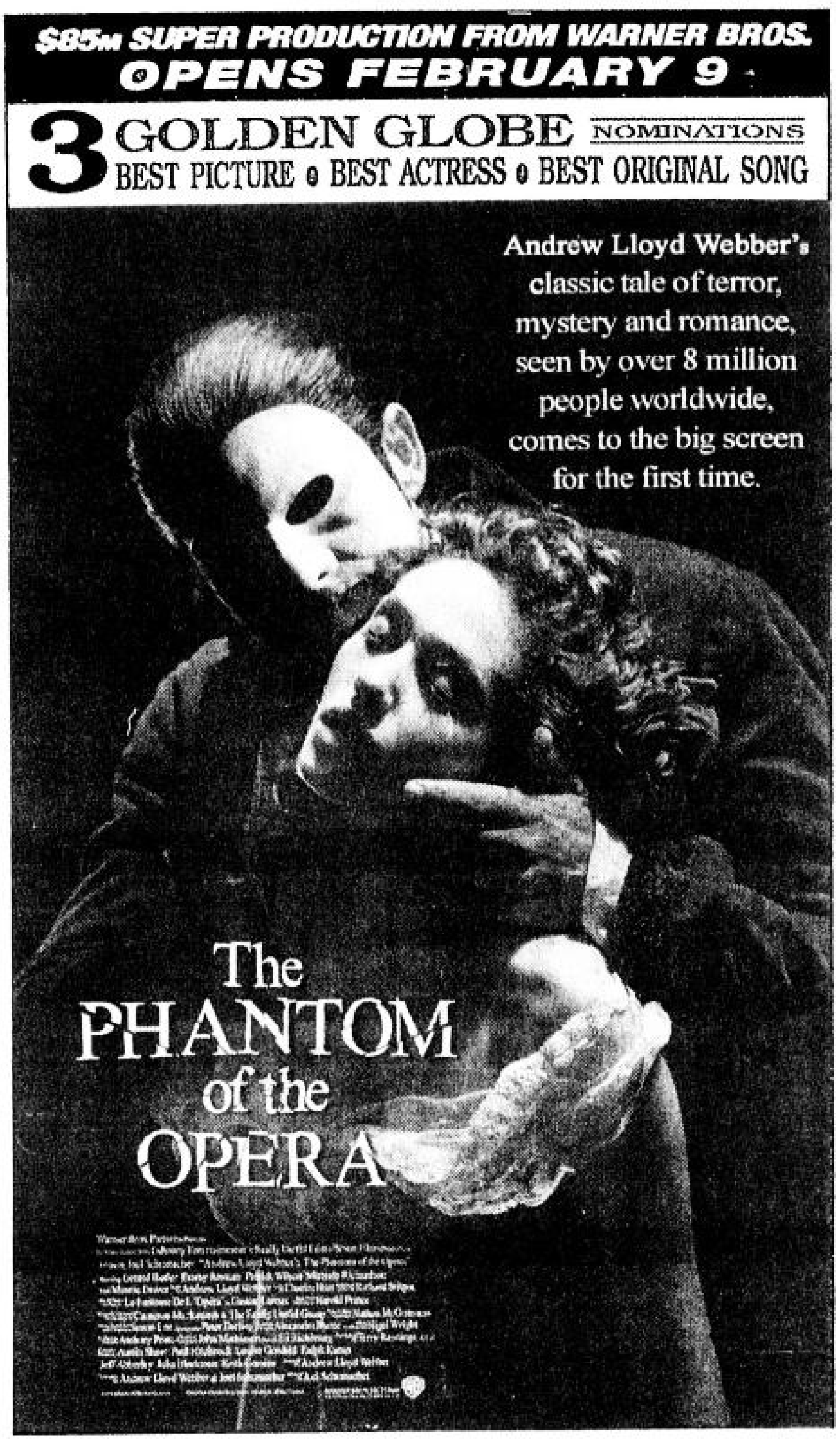
Despite his reported feud with actor-Sen. Bong Revilla during a routine Senate hearing last Wednesday, Manzano vowed to pursue his mission to get the pirates. He also denied he was feuding with Revilla.

"He was a perfect gentleman," Manzano told INQUIRER Entertainment last Friday when asked what really happened during the hearing. "The important thing is I got approval for the implementing rules and regulations of the OMB."

REVILLA. What feud?

Revilla was reported to have given Manzano until the end of February to improve his performance following complaints from industry leaders that the OMB was not doing a good job in curbing piracy in the country. The senator, who was head of OMB's predecessor, the Video Regulatory Board, and who had recommended Manzano to head the OMB, also denied feuding with Manzano.

"I actually fought for the amendments of the IRR," Manzano said.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4 BLADE TRINITY
5 UNO
6 ENTENG KABISOTE

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2 ONE MISSED CALL
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2 SO HAPPY TOGETHER
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4 HELLWOLF

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1 KUNG FU HUSTLE
2 ONE MISSED CALL
3 OCEAN'S TWELVE
4 UNO

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2 MANCHURIAN CANDIDATE
3 SO HAPPY TOGETHER
4 OCEAN'S TWELVE

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2 GEORGE AND THE DRAGON
3 MADHOUSE
4 OCEAN'S TWELVE
5 BLADE TRINITY
6 KUNG FU HUSTLE
7 UNO
8 NATIONAL TREASURE

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2 MANCHURIAN CANDIDATE
3 AFTER THE SUNSET
4 SKY CAPTAIN

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8 SO HAPPY TOGETHER

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2 NANGHAK
3 GEORGE AND THE DRAGON
4 BLADE TRINITY
5 2046
6 OCEAN'S TWELVE

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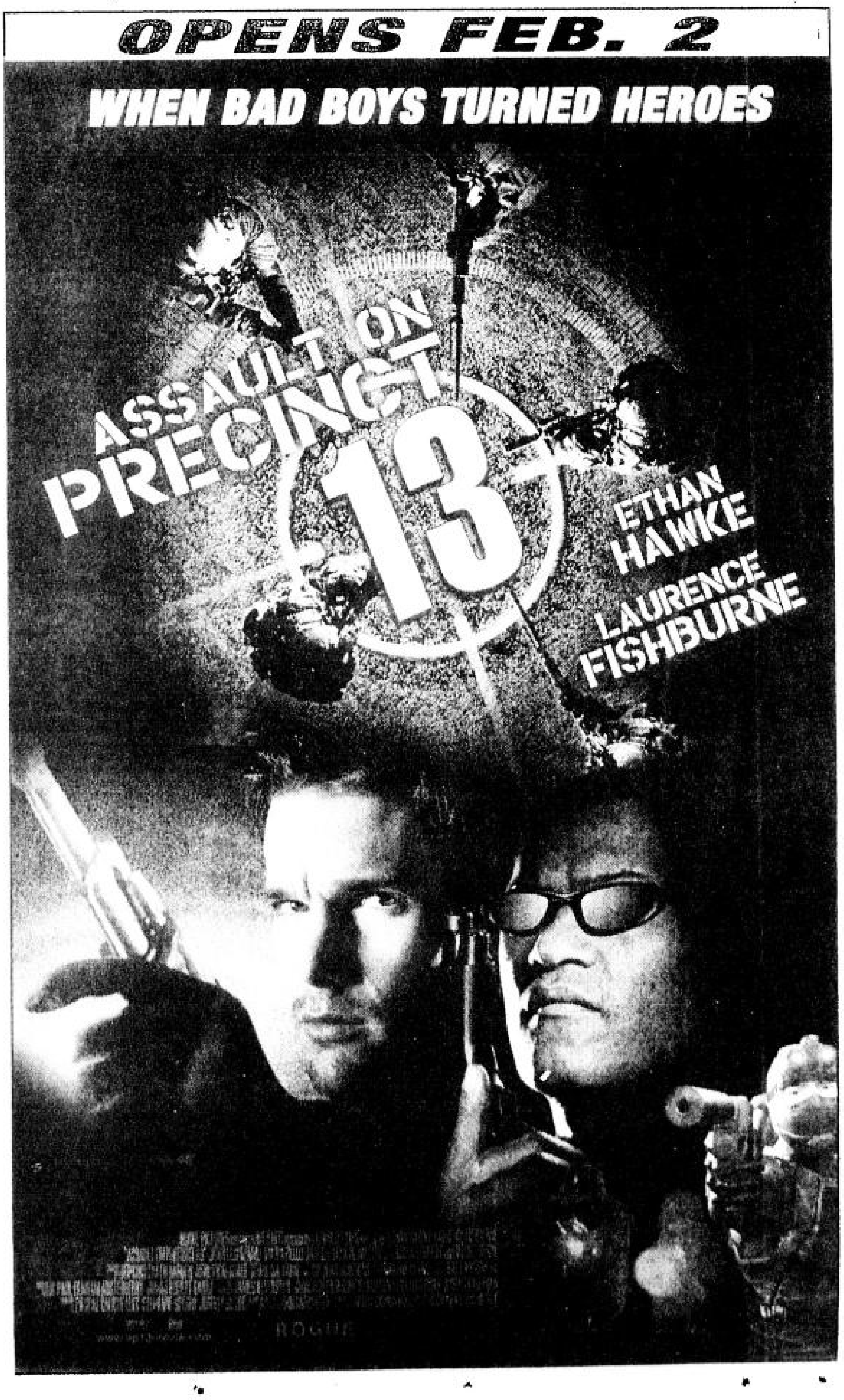
2 DARKNESS
3 WIMBLEDON
4 BLADE TRINITY


OPENS FEB. 2
WHEN BAD BOYS TURNED HEROES
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‘Patrol ng Pilipino’ sent to cover tragedy

BACOLODAN

SHOW STOPPER

FILIPINOS who followed the early television coverage of the South Asian tsunami tragedy witnessed the dedication of ABS-CBN’s Integrated News and Current Affairs’ (INCA) team, dispatched to the sites as “Patrol ng Pilipino.”

On Dec. 27, 2004, a day after disaster struck, Aladin Bacolodan was reporting live from Aceh, Indonesia; George Cariño was en route to Phuket, Thailand, and Tony Velasquez was covering developments in Sri Lanka.

INCA also sent Jay Ruiz to Jakarta, and Alvin Elchico to Bangkok.

The network says they are among its most experienced and devoted journalists, fielded with some of the most advanced equipment in the country to deliver urgent and comprehensive news at the soonest time possible.

INCA, the network stresses, “is committed to the service of Filipinos worldwide.”

CARIÑO

From genocide to sex research

BERLIN—The Berlin International Film Festival will feature 21 films competing for the Golden Bear top prize next month, with film subjects running the gamut from the genocide in Rwanda and violence in the Middle East to a trailblazing American sex researcher.

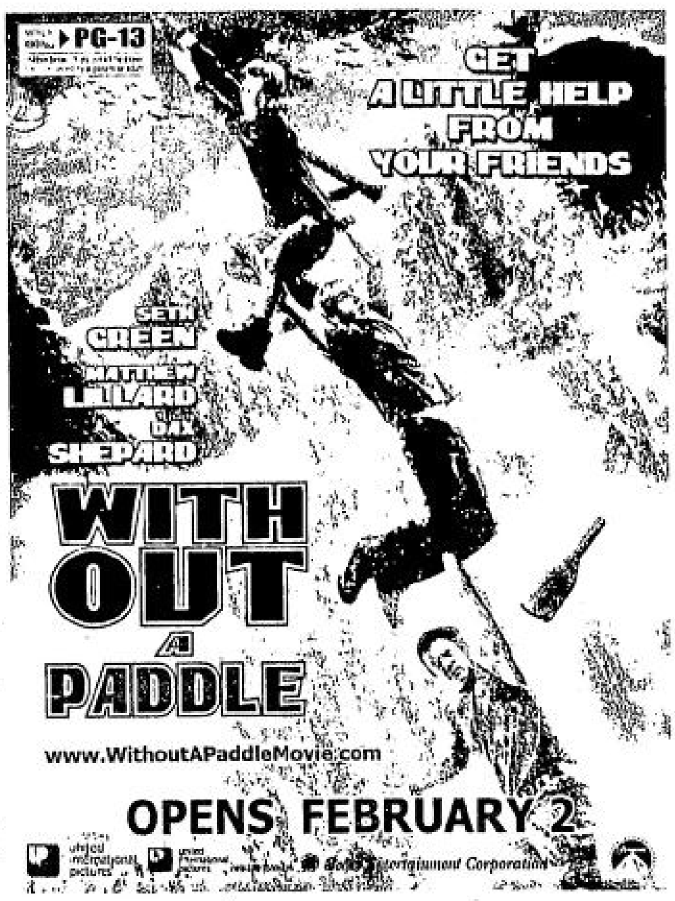
Contenders will include the US production “Sometimes in April,” which focuses on the trauma of Rwanda’s civil war, and stars Oris Erhuero and Debra Winger; “Heights,” the directorial debut of Chris Terrio that follows shifting love stories on a summer day in New York, starring Glenn Close and Isabella Rossellini; and the Dutch-German-French co-production “Paradise Now,” by Hany Abu-Asad, which follows 28 hours in the lives of two Palestinian suicide bombers.

Other films include Russian director Aleksandr Sokurov’s “Solnce (The Sun),” which revolves around Japanese Emperor Hirohito, and the Italian production “Provincia Meccanica,” about a chaotic, but loving family. “Kinsey,” Bill Condon’s film about American sex researcher Alfred C. Kinsey starring Liam Neeson, will close out the competition, organizers said.

Those films are in addition to 11 already announced, including Wes Anderson’s comedy, “The Life Aquatic with Steve Zissou,” and “Les Temps qui changent (Changing Times),” directed by Andre Techine and starring Catherine Deneuve and Gerard Depardieu.

Roland Emmerich, the German director of “Independence Day” and “The Day After Tomorrow” will head the jury, the festival announced last month.

The 55th edition will begin Feb. 10, and run until Feb. 20. *AP*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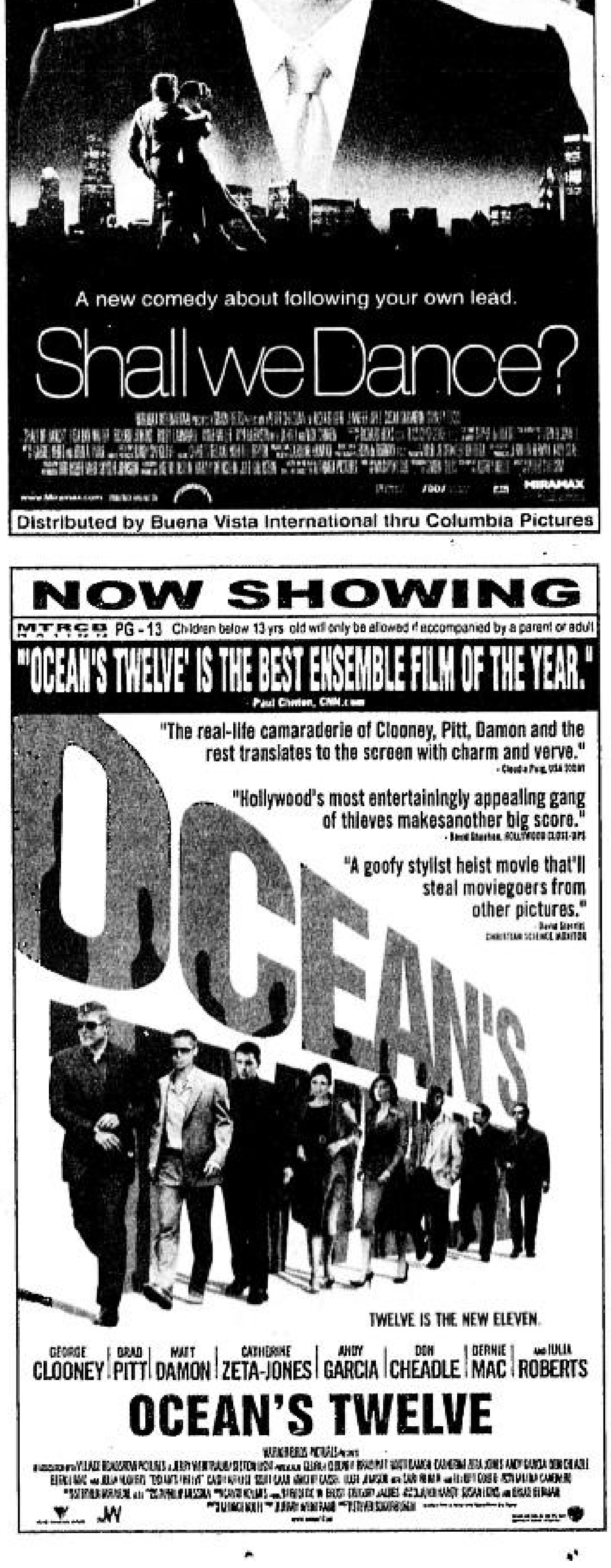
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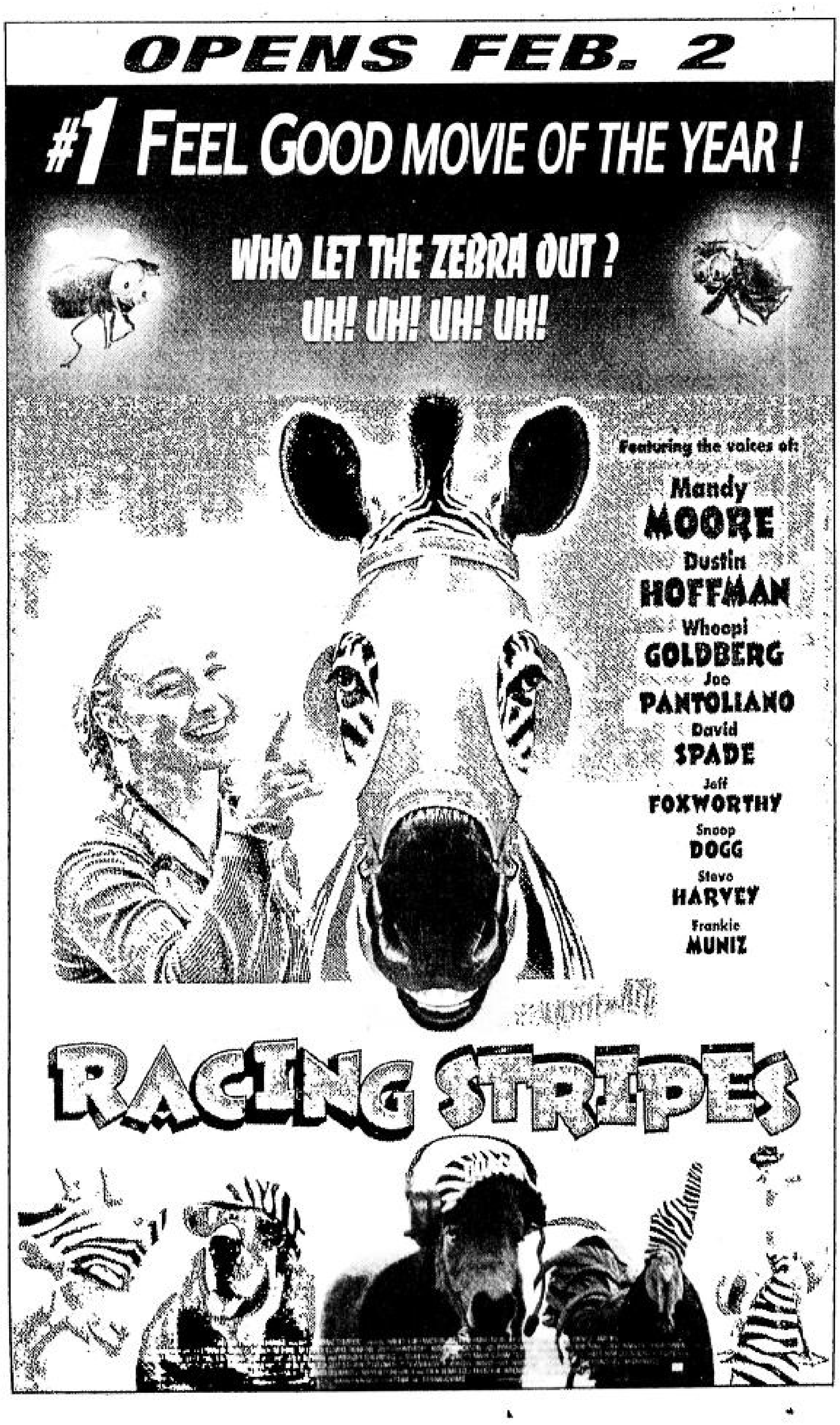
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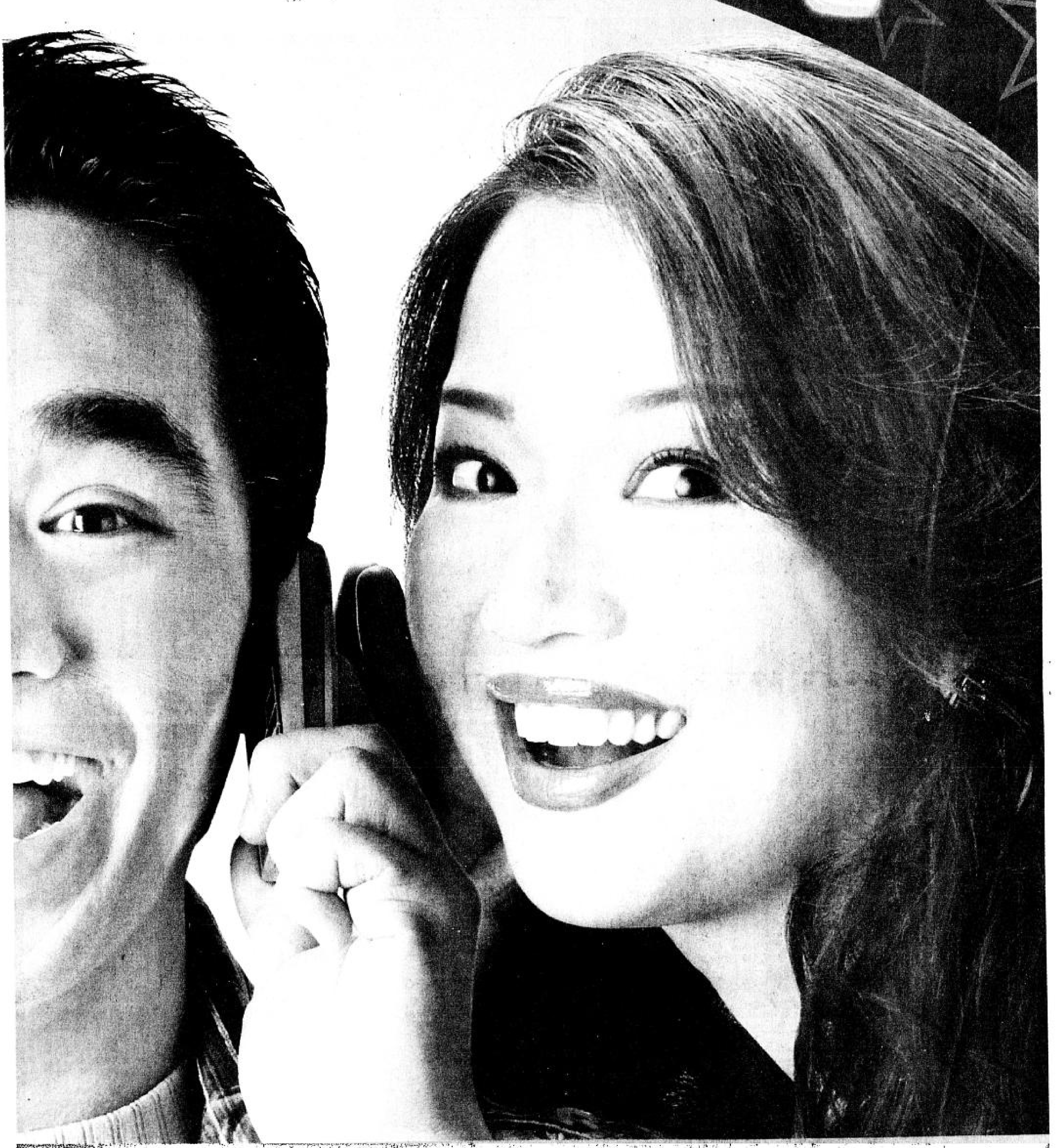

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SMART StarCaller is a one-of-a-kind service that lets you hear the latest news and chika direct from your favorite stars. Get regular voice* updates from Kris Aquino and other showbiz celebrities. So now it's more close and personal.

To susbcribe to StarCaller, text <celebrity keyword> and send to 3262

For more stars, text STARS and send to 3262.

KRIS
3262
STARS
3262

Keyword	Celebrity Name	Keyword	Celebrity Name
ANGELAQUINO	ANGEL Aquino	JOHNLLOYD	JOHNLLOYD Cruz
ANGELIKA	ANGELIKA dela Cruz	JOYCE	JOYCE Jimenez
ANTOINETTE	ANTOINETTE Taus	JUDAY	JUDY ANN Santos
ARA	ARA Mina	KITCHIE	KITCHIE Nadal
AUBREY	AUBREY Miles	KRIS	KRIS Aquino
CHESCA	CHESCA Garcia	MARVIN	MARVIN Agustin
CHRISTIAN	CHRISTIAN Bautista	PATRICK	PATRICK Garcia
CINDY	CINDY Kurleto	REGINET	REGINE Tolentino
CLAUDINE	CLAUDINE Baretto	TINTIN	TINTIN Bersola
DOMINIC	DOMINIC Ochoa	TROY	TROY Montero
HEART	HEART Evangelista	YUL	YUL Servo

Rates: Introductory price of P5.00 per voice message received. P2.50 each for other text messages.

*Voice updates are pre-recorded.
Subscriber will receive a text message informing him of an incoming call. Upon receipt of the text message, subscriber will already be charged P5.00. Once subscriber is informed of the incoming call via text message, he must keep his mobile phone on to be able to receive the call. The system will try to place the call up to four (4) times only. Voice calls will be received anytime from 8am to 8pm from the 3262 access number. Subscriber has an option to request for the current voice update anytime. Just text CALL <celebrity keyword> to 3262. Subscriber will be charged P5.00 per request.

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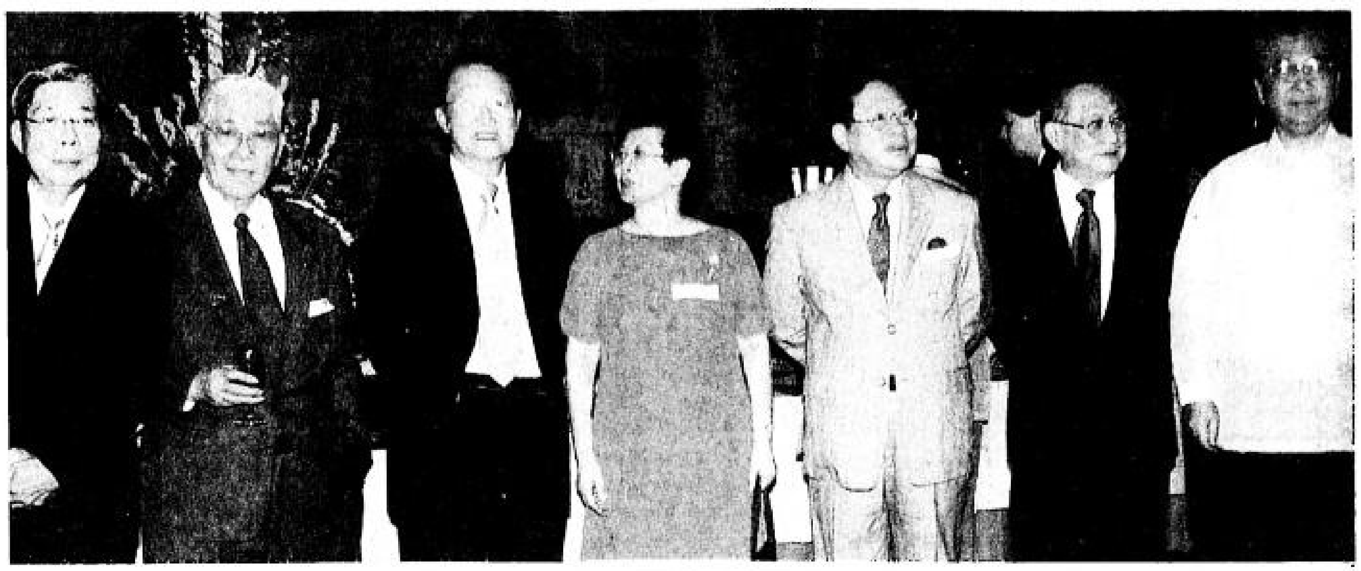
Gov. Paeng bids farewell



THE MONETARY Board with BSP Governor Rafael Buenaventura (third from left). Antonio Alindogan Jr., Raul Boncan Sr., Finance Sec. Juanita D. Amatong, Melito S. Salazar Jr., Juan Quintos Jr., Vicente Valdepenas Jr.

WE MISSED the annual reception for the banking community tendered by the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas governor. This year was more significant as it will be the last of BSP Governor Rafael B. Buenaventura whose six-year term ends by the middle of the year.

Co-terminus with him are several members of the Monetary Board, the policy-making body of the BSP. During the reception, he called on each MB member and introduced the newest, Raul Boncan Sr., a former undersecretary of trade and industry.

As to who will take Buenaventura's place is still anybody's guess. Rumor has it that Securities and Exchange Commission chair Fe Barin might become the new BSP governor. Or it could be deputy governor Amando Tetangco. But in a country where major decisions are based on politics, who knows?

Barin stayed until there were only a handful of guests around.

Our source who was present expressed surprise that Ombudsman Simeon Marcelo and several Court of Appeals justices were there.

Former Finance Secretary and MB member Jose T. Pardo also attended.

Banco de Oro chair Tessie Sy, who was hounded by reporters during last year's reception because of the issue of Banco de Oro buying shares of Equitable-PCIbank, was overheard kidding Equitable chair Antonio Go that she has been "courting" him for a year and yet no answer. Go replied with a blush and some excuse that he was a married man.

It was a very-well attended affair held at Fort Antonio Abad although for the second straight year taipan Henry Sy was absent.

M.Q. Espino

MONETARY Board member Melito S. Salazar Jr. (left), with Sergio R. Ortiz-Luis Jr., chair, Export and Industry Bank

FORMER CB deputy governor Escolastica Bince and former BSP Governor Gabriel C. Singson.

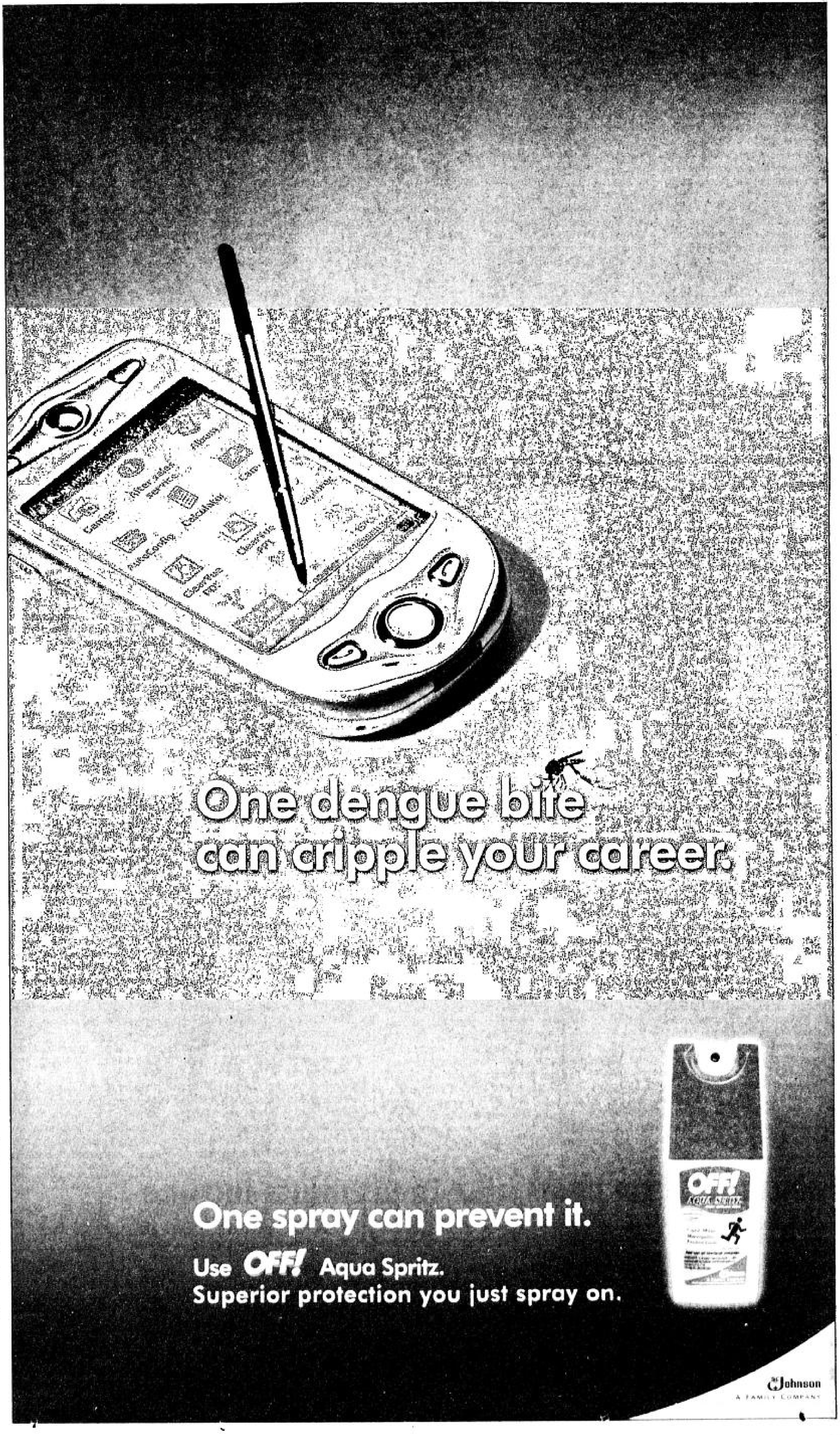
NESTOR Tan of Banco de Oro, Antonio Abacan of Metrobank, and BSP director Corazon Guerrero

BUENAVENTURA with Ombudsman Simeon Marcelo

AMBASSADOR Tomas Alcantara (left) with BSP Deputy Governor Amando M. Tetangco Jr.

(From left) BSP Director Nestor Garcia, former BSP Governor Gabriel C. Singson and BSP Deputy Governor Alberto V. Reyes

MIKE Aguilar of Standard Chartered Bank and Joey Bermudez of Chinatrust Phils. Commercial Bank Corp.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Dagupan couple mixes business, domestic life

By Yolanda Sotelo-Fuertes
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

ARNEL Dimasuay and Isabel "Ivi" Crisologo (above) created a business partnership out of their marriage. Right photo shows the Dimasuay-Crisologo design showroom. Piedra China stones, old wood and huge clay jar mark the entrance. RAY ZAMBRANO, PDI NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU

DAGUPAN CITY—Some couples marry for love, others marry for convenience.

But couple Arnel Dimasuay and Isabel "Ivi" Crisologo married for both. They found love and the convenience of having one another for a business partner.

Through their partnership, they found the support they needed to pursue their interest—the arts.

Arnel and Ivi, both 39, own Dimasuay-Crisologo Contract Design (DC Design) in Lucao District here.

One cannot miss the couple's "playhouse"—a three-story building whose front yard teems with Filipino and Japanese furniture and decors.

The first level of the building serves as a display center for their unique creations in home furnishing while the second and third levels serve as their residence.

Their "home," however, is still part of the business area as it is a showroom of the couple's creativity; Arnel's architectural designs and furniture, and Ivi's flair for interior design.

Their clients are usually shown the furniture for sale at the first level, but would also be toured inside their house so they would have ideas on how to arrange their homes or offices on their own.

But usually, clients order similar items found in the Dimasuay's home.

Most likely, the clients get the services of Arnel as an architect and of Ivi as an interior designer.

Arnel, an architecture graduate from the National University in Manila, met Ivi while they were working at the Blims Furniture in Makati City.'

He says he thought marrying Ivi was a step towards realizing his dreams to make his marriage a business partnership as well.

"I know that we would complement each other since we're in the same field. We understand each other's work, like when I work late at night or when she works late nights, too," he says.

Living in Dagupan was another dream come true for Arnel, a Manileño who wanted to settle in a quieter place. He had planned to build a house in Saudi Arabia where he worked for five years before he met Ivi.

His love for Ivi, however, made him change his mind.

The two met in 1996 and got married in 1997. After their wedding, Arnel started collecting wood in different places and stocked these in his in-laws' yard, also in the city.

A year later, the couple started building their dream house, which was completed after five years.

Arnel said it took that long to build the house because "sometimes, we ran out of budget. There were times when he did the masonry or carpentry alone because there was no money to pay for laborers."

When the house was completed, they were able to concentrate on their passion for creating beautiful furniture and designing homes and offices.

PINOY ENTREPRENEUR

Arnel sees a piece of art in what ordinary persons would consider junk. From old pieces of wood, he carves sofa beds, tables, beds and home decors. Since the old pieces of wood have acquired their own characteristics like distinctive shapes and colors, each piece becomes unique.

For instance, a sugar mill finds new use as stand for a breakfast table, old posts of a bridge would be crafted as feet of a sofa and the floor of an old house would become a bench.

Arnel's passion for the arts is complemented by Ivi's passion for simple, not pretentious but elegant interior designs.

After all, like Arnel's parents who are also into home designing (his father is an architect while his mother is a home economics teacher), Ivi's parents were well into the arts, too.

Her father, Eddie Crisologo, used to own a furniture shop, called Beauty Craft, also in Dagupan while her mother, Susan Erfe Mejia Crisologo, is also an interior designer.

"I have been exposed to the trade at a young age," she says. Such exposure led her to pursue fine arts (major in interior design) course at the University of Santo Tomas University.

The couple "inherited" the workers of Ivi's parents or their children who execute their ideas.

"They work nicely and really fast," Arnel says of their men who work at the couple's backyard.

With their team of loyal workers, Arnel and Ivi are able to make their dream a reality: A home where their three children—aged seven, five and nine months old—live amid a bustling business and a loving partnership that they hope to keep forever.

A tale of two modern-day Cinderellas

EDNA de la Torre

ELSA Zambales

ONE IS Elsa Zambales from Palawan and the other is Edna de la Torre, a former policewoman. Avon helped them make their dreams come true and their inspirational stories encourage Avon to continue making the same things possible for others. These modern-day Cinderellas show exactly why it's great to be an Avon Lady.

Elsa Zambales started as an Avon Lady in 1989 when she was only 16 years old. She had always been interested in putting up her own business; so when she heard about Avon, she immediately decided to become an Avon Lady. She says that Avon's products were familiar to her because her parents have been buying them since she was a child. In 1997, she continued her college education, taking up Pharmacy and through her work for Avon, Elsa was able to send herself to school.

Now, as a franchise dealer for the company, Elsa has 150 certified beauty consultants (CBC) under her. She thanks Avon for improving her knowledge of handling a business as well as her communication skills. "*Dati rin akong mahiyain, natuto akong makiharap sa tao.* I also learned from failure, *marami akong pagkakamali pero natuto na akong magpatakbo ng negosyo.*"

Her dream of having a business of her own has come true and her earnings have been used to put up a family-owned drugstore. She helped her younger sister through school and now sends her sister's children to school, too. She was also able to buy land for herself as an investment and has savings in the bank. She is working on getting her very own house next. Despite her successes, Elsa continues to work for Avon and she encourages other women to become an Avon Lady, too. "*Hindi mo kailangan ng puhunan, ang mga pangarap ay maaaring maabot basta magsipag ka lang.*"

Edna de la Torre has been part of Avon for 20 years. The Bicol-based franchise manager now has 1,000 active franchise dealers under her wing. Edna appreciates all the benefits that she garnered from Avon and the training the company provides. Her story goes back to 1975 when she started looking for another job to increase her policewoman's salary.

Edna is a widow. It was after her husband died that she became a full time Avon lady. She remarried and had two kids but it was unfortunate that her son, Ian, was diagnosed with leukemia when he was just 4 years old. Edna has nothing but gratitude towards Avon as her earnings paid for his chemotherapy sessions that cost P60,000 to P70, 000 per month. Ian died before he could undergo a bone marrow transplant in the US. It was a hard situation to accept but Edna was glad that her little boy no longer suffered and that she was able to shoulder his treatment expenses before he passed away. Working for Avon helped her to do that.

Two years after she started, Edna was able to buy a car and eventually, the house and lot she had always wanted and a few other properties. She was able to provide proper education for her three children and helped her siblings and a niece finish school. Edna herself learned a lot about running a business through her experiences as an Avon Lady.

"*Natutuhan ko ang* value *ng* public relations *at pakikitungo sa iba't-ibang tao. Nag*-grow *ako* because of training. I learned to be confident *kasi dati* shy *ako. Natuto rin ako mag-ayos ng sarili, mag*-make-up. *Sa madaling salita, natuto akong maging* sufficiently presentable, *lalo na ngayon ako ay* FM *na.*"

Edna knows the value of keeping her staff happy and motivated, providing them with sufficiently high salaries and incentives. She follows Avon's principle of giving full recognition to its representatives. Edna is always ready to encourage other women to become part of Avon's team.

"Be an Avon lady and don't hesitate. This is the best business because of unlimited earning opportunities. You will not invest capital, no bond, no collateral. The company trusts you enough to give you a credit line. Then you can start your own business. That's Avon. *At malaking tulong ang nabibigay ng Avon sa mga kababaihan.*"

E-mail, Internet, remain alien to many of RP's HS students

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

GILAS LEADERS. From left, John Bernas, Sen. Mar Roxas, Jaime Augusto Zobel de Ayala

A TEACHER in a public high school in a remote town in southern Philippines once taught her students about computers by making a crude drawing of one on the blackboard.

For three out of five public high school students, that will likely be the only encounter they will have with a computer.

And for the lucky two who have computer laboratories with at least 10 personal computers in their schools, only a fraction, or 4 percent of all public high schools, have access to the Internet and the gifts of cyberspace.

E-mail, websites and Yahoo! remain alien concepts.

Landmark moves, however, had been done to pull up the dismal figures on computer availability and Internet access.

Through the combined efforts of different groups in the government and business, for instance, about 250 schools were connected to cyberspace as of the end of last year.

While laudable, Internet connection to 250 out of over 5,400 schools is still a long way to go. Much more needs to be done, and fast, if the Philippines is to catch up with the rest of the wired world.

Thus, the public and private sectors joined hands to accelerate the pace of connectivity through the program dubbed, "Gearing up Internet Literacy Access for Students" or "Gilas," which was officially launched last Friday at the Global Filipino conference in Cebu City.

Sen. Manuel Roxas II, co-chair of the Gilas steering committee, tells SundayBiz he is pledging his time and effort into Gilas as he always believed that getting more Filipinos to participate in the knowledge economy will assure them of decent jobs.

This was one of the reasons behind Roxas' sponsorship of the Personal Computers for Public Schools program, launched two years ago when he was still head of the Department of Trade and Industry, which provided computer laboratories to 2,096 public schools.

The Philippines, he says, is already reaping the rewards of computer literacy, by providing jobs outsourced by multinational firms, such as animation, centralized accounting, human resource management and call center operations.

"That success needs to be promoted at this point," he says. "We need to make sure that the raw material is in place."

That rich, raw material will come from children in school, 9 out of 10 of whom are enrolled in the public education system, who will eventually take those outsourced jobs.

Jaime Augusto Zobel de Ayala, co-vice chair of the steering committee representing the private sector, says in the interview that contributing to a program that will help in job creation and national development always excites Ayala Corp., and the private sector as a whole.

Zobel says knowing there is full government support and sincere desire to see the project through encourages the private sector join in the concerted effort to provide Internet access to all public schools.

That is the noble ambition of Gilas, which hopes to connect the 5,433 public high schools to the Internet in five years.

Under the program, Gilas will provide free Internet connection and teacher training to schools with working computer laboratories.

Gilas will also work to provide computers, along with the Internet connectivity and teacher training, to the greater number of public high schools with no computer laboratories.

While Gilas plans to provide Internet access to all public high schools, it will prioritize those in communities that will harp on the benefits of accessing the Internet and will make sure the facilities will actually be used.

Providing computers that will just be kept under lock and key is not Gilas' vision.

It was estimated that it will cost some P100,000 to provide Internet connection to schools that already have existing laboratories.

This will go to the installation of servers, Local Area Network cards, cables, unlimited free Internet use for one year, and phone lines to schools without phones, as well as training for teachers and administrators for optimal use of the connectivity package.

On the other hand, schools will require an additional P300,000 each for the computer laboratories.

This will bring the total cost of seeing the project through to about $30 million or close to P1.7 billion.

It is a staggering amount, but it can be raised if the public and private sectors, the international funding community and even individual Filipinos, especially the Overseas Filipino Workers, all pitched in.

Otherwise, most public high school students will have to make do with the computer drawing on the blackboard.

Insurance firm posts hike in premium income

PHILIPPINE AXA Life Insurance Corp. registered 56 percent over last year in total premium income for the first 10 months of 2004.

The company's premium income from January to October 2004 rose to P3.44 billion from P2.2 billion in the first 10 months in 2003. This growth is mainly attributed to the company's new peso single premium variable life insurance product, HoneyPot Peso as well as revenues from HoneyPot Dollar.

HoneyPot, the industry's first dollar-denominated single-pay variable life insurance product, is an innovative financial needs product that provides the best value in life insurance protection and long-term investment. It was launched only last year by Philippine AXA Life.

"Our product development initiatives are finally paying off. We have succeeded in introducing more innovative and competitive products that addresses the evolving sophistication of the market and at the same time generate more value for the company. This initiative is aligned with AXA Asia Pacific's regional mandate to launch best of breed products," said Philippine AXA Life president and CEO Victor P. Quisumbing.

Quisumbing also credited the company's consistent growth to the unceasing and dedicated efforts of all its sales, marketing and operations personnel working collaboratively to deliver both products and quality services consistently. It would also be noteworthy to mention the invaluable support provided by its affiliated insurance brokers who offer Philippine AXA products that cater to its specific high net worth market segments.

Despite the challenging economic and political environment compounding a fiercely competitive market, the company's distribution channels continued its expansive reach in the life insurance market.

For 2003, Philippine AXA Life registered a total premium income of P2.64 billion, with total assets up by 49 percent at P6.88 billion.

KUOK Group unveils the St. Francis. Photo shows Kuok Group vice-chair Tomas C. Zita, Menchie Abalos and Mayor Neptali M. Gonzales II unveiling the 60-story luxury residences to be located in the Shangri-la Plaza Mall complex

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Travel expo expects to post banner year

CRISIS or no crisis, the travel industry has been doing good business. At least based on the sales generated from the annual Travel Tour Expo, now on its 12th year.

In 2002, exhibitors generated over P73 million in sales. This went up to P83.9 million in 2003. As of last year, the hundred-million mark was reached with sales of more than P138 million.

The coming 12th TravelTour Expo 2005 is expected to exceed the 2004 figures in terms of sales generated, as well as number of visitors and number of booths. With the theme "The Power of Travel," this year's expo will also be the grandest ever. The Expo not only calls attention to tourism but helps generate additional sales for travel agents, tour operators and other companies that offer tourism-related products and services during its yearly run.

There will be 305 booths, almost 100 more than last year's 214, to be occupied by a good mix of travel agents, tour operators, cruise lines, airlines, hotels, resorts, theme parks, national tourism offices (NTO's), government offices and travel shops. This, in turn, will give the public more reasons to visit the coming expo which is targeting to attract more than 60,000 visitors during its 3-day run from Feb. 4 to 6 at Megatrade Halls 1, 2 and 3 of SM Megamall. In the past, the TravelTour Expo had among its visitors travel and tourism trade practitioners, holiday travelers, corporate and business travelers, incentive and convention planners, government and business leaders, and direct buyers and investors.

"With the changes and improvements made this year, we have made the expo big for consumers, with more benefits. I wish to see more action on the floor and hope that it will be more productive for the exhibitors," says Maucie L. Cuna, Travel Agents and Tour Operator Committee Head of the 12th TravelTour Expo 2005 organizing committee.

According to Nit Ragaza, PTAA president and co-chair of this year's expo, "It is the first time that international exhibitors will be among the participants." He also reveals why they've decided to hold this year's expo on a bigger scale. "During the 2004 expo, a lot of people were expressing their desire to join—both participants and non-participants, so we decided to go ahead with our plan to make the 2005 expo a grand one."

The Expo is spearheaded by event organizer PTAA, the largest travel association in the country with almost 500 members. The project jives with the association's core mission—to foster unity in the travel industry and promote the welfare of its members and the traveling public.

A total of 93 participants, including major sponsors, are pooling their resources together to give the public the biggest expo in terms of size, concept, and most importantly in discounts and promotional offerings and other exclusive privileges for expo visitors.

Capital funding is provided by TravelTour partners including long-time supporter Philippine Airlines (PAL) which has been the expo's official carrier since 1998. As PAL VP for Marketing Support Bong Cruz would admit, PAL's participation is mutually beneficial to both the company and event organizer PTAA. PAL has consistently been included in the "millionaires club" or roster of expo participants who make the most sales. With eight booths allotted for them, PAL will be showcasing its latest customer service efforts which include the E-ticketing, as well as, promote new destinations such as Nagoya, Japan in time for the summer holidays, reveals Jess Garcia, AVP for Advertising and Promotions.

"The TravelTour Expo helps us reach out and get closer to our market," says Gigie Hubilla, Director of Sales of Aboitiz Transport System Corp. (Superferry). For the third consecutive year, Superferry is a Silver Sponsor. .

For Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corp. Limited (HSBC), a Diamond Sponsor, the expo is a good venue to promote the HSBC Mabuhay Miles Visa, the first ever available co-brand credit card with PAL, which is the expo's official credit card.

Also providing support are Silver Sponsor Globe Telecoms and Bronze Sponsor Air Philippines.

For inquiries, call PTAA at tel. (632) 552-0026 to 29, fax (632) 552-0030 or email trvltour@compass.com.ph.

VICTORIAS

MILLING COMPANY, INC.

NOTICE

OF POSTPONEMENT OF ANNUAL STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING

To all Stockholders:

Notice is hereby given that the **Annual Stockholders' Meeting** of **Victorias Milling Company, Inc.** scheduled on **1 February 2005**, pursuant to the corporation's By-Laws, has been postponed by the **Board of Directors** to **1 March 2005, at 9:00 in the morning.**

Formal notice and agenda for the meeting shall be published later.

(Sgd.) SANTIAGO T. GABIONZA, JR.
Corporate Secretary

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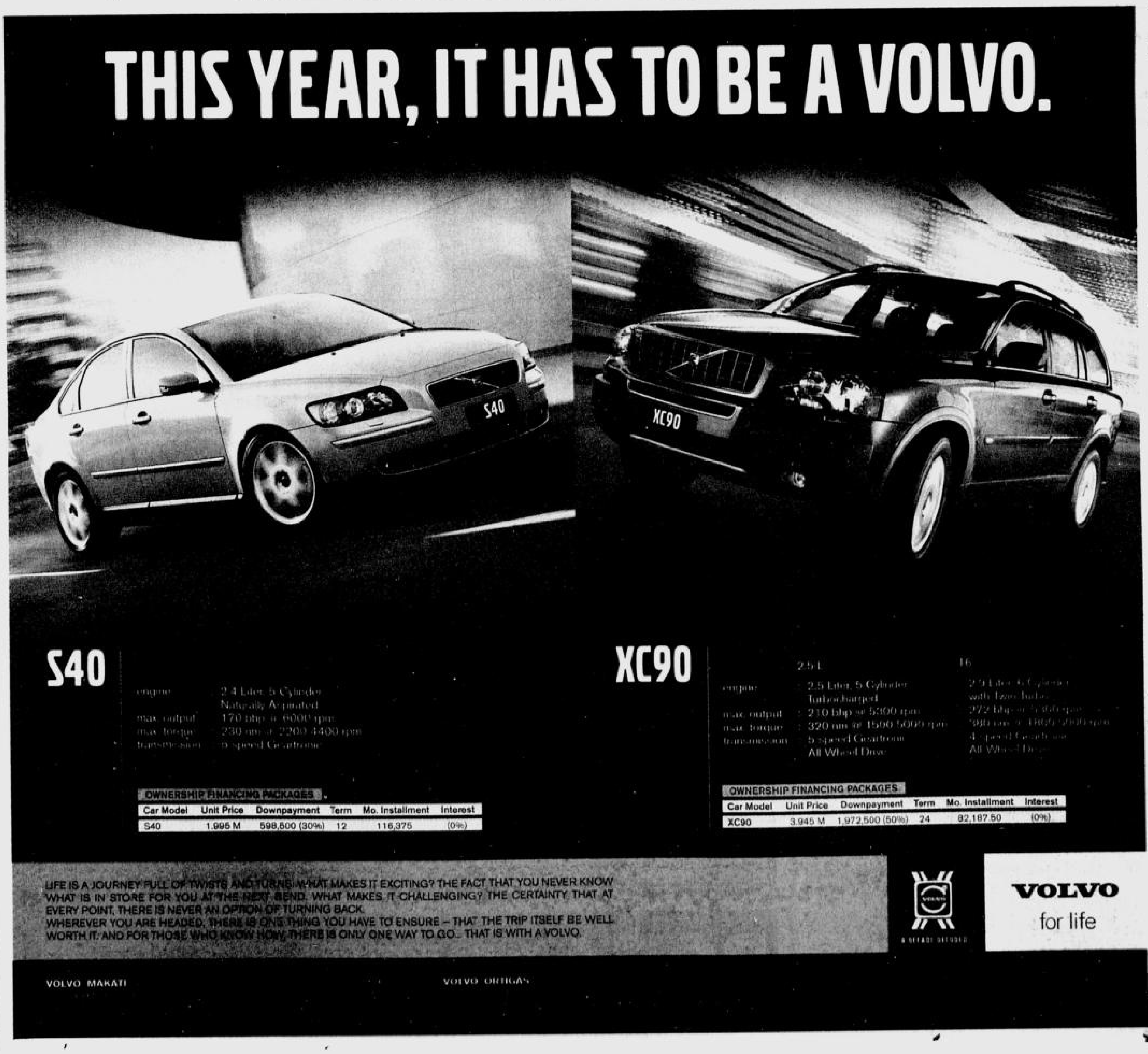

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2.9 Liter 6 Cylinder with twin turbo
272 bhp @ [illegible] rpm
[illegible]
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All Wheel Drive

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Car Model	Unit Price	Downpayment	Term	Mo. Installment	Interest
S40	1.995 M	598,500 (30%)	12	116,375	(0%)

OWNERSHIP FINANCING PACKAGES

Car Model	Unit Price	Downpayment	Term	Mo. Installment	Interest
XC90	3.945 M	1,972,500 (50%)	24	82,187.50	(0%)

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- ➢ Knowledge of various bivariate and multivariate statistical techniques, including factor analysis, analysis of variance, multiple regression, logit, discriminant function analysis, cluster analysis, and conjoint analysis.
- ➢ Must be a good communicator and be able to write and present statistical findings about complex subject matter in general business terms.

B. RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

- ➢ Not more than 25 years old, graduate of Statistics, Business Economics, Marketing, Sociology, Anthropology, Communications Research or Economics with above-average scholastic standing.
- ➢ Familiar with or has basic knowledge of research (design, implementation, data processing, and analysis)
- ➢ Adept with data, analytical, excellent writing and oral communications skills.
- ➢ Knowledge of a provincial dialect (Cebuano, Kapampangan, Ilocano, etc.) is an advantage

The role of the above individuals will be varied and challenging; within a friendly team environment; and it also offers very good career prospects.

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PSRC Building, Calbayog cor. Kanlaon Sts.
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E-mail address: research@psrc-ri.com.ph

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Olongapo City Local Government has an immediate opening for:

City Government Department Head II (College President) SG-26

Requirements:

- Doctorate Degree
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- 40 hrs of relevant training
- CSEE

Duties and Responsibilities:

– Responsible for the administration and execution of the College policies promulgated by the Board of Trustees following the standards of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), Civil Service Commission (CSC) and other relative agencies/offices towards educational quality and excellence.

– Represents the college in its external relations with other educational institutions to include the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), Association of Local Colleges and Universities (ALCU). ALCU Commission on Accreditation, Technical Education and Skills Development Authority, and other affiliating agencies and offices including the local government and the general public.

– Ensures the continued support of the local government, other agencies and sources out funds necessary to sustain its operations and achieve its mission, vision and goals.

Submit your application to Personnel Office and/or to the Office of the City Mayor, 2nd Floor City Hall Complex, Olongapo City.

GLADIUS
Industries, Incorporated

We are in need of the following:

(2) Accounting Clerks

Female, between 21-32 years old. BS Accountancy graduate. Responsible, hardworking and self motivated. Can work well even under pressure

(1) Company Secretary

Female, between 21-32 years old. BS Graduate with pleasing personality. Above average oral and written communication skills. Can work well even undder pressure

(1) Company Driver

Male, between 21-36 years old at least High School or Vocational Course Graduate. With valid driver's license (R 1,2,3 more prefer). Has knowledge in basic troubleshooting

Interested applicant may apply in person, M-F (2-5PM). Bring your resumé with picture and other relevant documents.

#19 Detroit St., Cubao, Q.C.
Tel. Nos.: 724-9512 / -19 / -04
E-mail add: gladiusinc@pldtdsl.net

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台灣日立（蘇比克）股份有限公司
TAIWAN HITACHI (SUBIC), INC.
No. 1A Binictican Drive, Subic Bay Industrial Park Phase II
Subic Bay Freeport Zone, Philippines
Tel. Nos.: (047) 252-1990/1133
Fax No. (047) 252-1600

We are in need of applicants for the position:

MANUFACTURING DEPARTMENT MANAGER

- Graduate of Mechanical/Machine Engineering; with at least 15-20 years of experience in Production Management and System Maintenance Management. An experience in Air-conditioning or its related industry is an advantage.
- All applicants must be 45 to 55 years old; male; preferably knows how to speak fluent Mandarin.

Qualified and interested applicants may send their resumé with NBI clearance, birth certificate and employment certificate to:

SBMA Labor Department,
Subic Bay Freeport Zone
Contact Person: Estelito C. Aliño, Jr.
Personnel Officer
Taiwan Hitachi (Subic) Inc.

Henkel

Henkel is a world leader with brands and advanced technologies that operates in three strategic business areas – Home Care, Personal Care and Technologies.

The Henkel Technologies Group is one of the leading suppliers of adhesives, sealants and surface treatments for industrial customers. It serves the automotive, electronics, aerospace, metal industries, assembly, maintenance and repair, consumer goods and packaging industries. Strong grands, such as Loctite, Teroson, P3, Hysol, Multicore and Liofol are key drivers behind its success.

More than 50,000 employees work for the Henkel Group worldwide. People in 125 countries around the world trust in brands and technologies from Henkel.

Position available:

The Technologies group of Henkel has an immediate opening for a

Sales Engineer

to support its growing business in the Packaging Industries.

The position involves developing and maintaining clients in the packaging industries. He will be responsible for the preparation of weekly status reports and updates to the Business Manager; visits to major accounts and conduct of seminars and trials required; the candidate is expected to provide innovative solutions for further improvement of customer process lines.

As a global player, Henkel offers a highly attractive, performance-based remuneration, excellent training and development opportunities and a substantial benefits package.

Qualifications:

- Male, licensed Chemical Engineer
- At least 1 year selling experience of adhesives or allied products
- Willing to accept provincial assignments
- Strong interpersonal communication and presentation skills
- Excellent proficiency in English, written and oral
- Knowledge in Powerpoint and Excel applications is a must
- Creative, teamplayer, detetrmined and highly organized.
- VAlid Driver's License

Applicants may submit their resumé with a recent 2x2 photo **not later than January 28, 2005** to address below:

Human Resources Dept.
Henkel Philippines, Inc.
3/F Alabang Business Tower, 1216 Acacia Avenue, Madrigal Business Park, Alabang Muntinlupa City
Email: **belcy.cruz@henkel.com**

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

This is to inform the public that **MS. MARVI C. LAZATIN** is no longer connected with **C.F. SHARP CREW MANAGEMENT, INC.** effective **December 24, 2004.**

All transactions entered into by the person stated above for and in behalf of the company from the said dates shall no longer be honored.

(For POEA purposes only)

(PDI-Jan 23, 2005)

JOB Market ONLINE VISIT US AT www.jobmarketonline.com

A US-based I.T. Company is in urgent need of dynamic individuals for its Philippine office.

Web Programmers / Application Developers

Advanced knowledge in Java Script, VBScript, ASP, ASP.NET and Visual Basic programming languages.
Sufficient background in SQL Server
Background on GIS applications an advantage

CAD Support Engineers

Degree in Engineering (Civil / Electrical / Mechanical) or Architecture
Advanced Knowledge in AutoCAD VBA
Strong communication and troubleshooting skills to support US-based Engineering customers.
Must be willing to work on different shifts

Systems Engineer

Demonstrated skills in Windows 2000/2003
Advanced hardware, software & network troubleshooting and support skills
Active Directory Services Management
Security Management & Group Policy Objects
Working background on Unix / Oracle preferred
Minimum 2 years experience on Windows Server support required

Technical Documentation Officer

College graduate of any 4-year course
Excellent written and oral communication skills
Highly effective organization skills
Experienced in writing proposals and user documentations for software applications
Knowledge in project management tools an advantage
Proficiency in computer applications required

Finance and Admin Officer

Business degree in Accounting or Finance
Knowledgeable in accounting principles, practices and financial reporting
Must have at least 2 years experience in related work
Proficiency in related computer applicationsPreferably with office administration experience

Candidates must be between 21 to 35 years old, with good interpersonal skills, and able to work efficiently under pressure.

Please send your resume with 2x2 colored picture to :

33 - D Rufino Pacific Tower
6784 Ayala Ave. Makati City 1226

PRIVATIZATION AND MANAGEMENT OFFICE

INVITATION TO BID

The Privatization and Management Office (PMO) is offering for sale, on "as-is-where-is" bases certain National Government (NG)/National Power Corporation (NPC) properties:

The assets are offered as follows:

1. PUBLIC BIDDING

Description	Indicative Price	Submission of Bids
A parcel of land with an area of 4,417 square meters located at Arnaiz Avenue corner Amorsolo St., Makati City	P 187,722,500.00	February 16, 2005 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

2. OFFER FOR SALE

Description	Price	Submission of Offers
Two parcels of land with a total area of 6,233 square meters, located at No. 1, Don Bosco St., Brgy. San Lorenzo, Makati City	OPEN PRICE	February 17, 2005 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Sealed bids/offers will be received at the specified dates from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. and immediately thereafter, the bids/offers shall be opened and tabulated in the presence of the bidders/offerors at the PMO Conference Room, 6th Floor, Privatization and Management Office, 104 Gamboa St., Legaspi Village, Makati City.

Interested parties are advised to deal directly with the PMO Marketing Department. Authenticated bidding documents, together with the Asset Specific Catalogues, may be secured from PMO for a nominal fee of P10,000.00.

In the event that the public bidding becomes a failure, the PMO reserves the right to accept proposals for the subject assets.

For inquiries, please contact Mr. Matthew R. de Guzman at telephone numbers 817-8762 or 818-4733.

(PDI--Jan. 22, 23 & 24, 2005)

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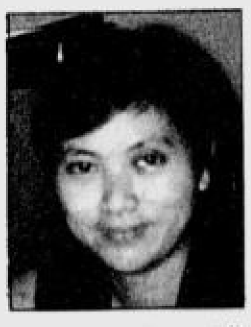
NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC



This is to inform the public that **MA. JANET J. NAVARRA**, whose picture appears herein is no longer connected with TRENDWAY BUILDERS, INC. / HANS FLOORING. Any transaction entered into by her will not be honored by the Company.

(PDI – January 23, 2005)

SEND YOUR RESUMES INSTANTLY
JOB Market ONLINE VISIT US AT www.jobmarketonline.com

A MULTINATIONAL CO.

urgently needs a

MARKETING EXECUTIVE

- Male or Female, not more than 30 years old, with pleasing personality
- Holder of an appropriate college degree from a reputable school
- Must have relevant sales work experience in the same capacity preferably in air, land and sea transport
- Computer literate, has good communication skills, willing to listen and learn, mature and organized and can work extended hours

Qualified candidates are requested to apply in person with their comprehensive resumé with latest 2x2 photo, contact number/s and NBI clearance, license, employment certificates and transcript & diploma to the Legal & Personnel Dept. 6th Floor, CTC Bldg., 2232 Roxas Blvd., Pasay City or send to e-mail address: everest1018@yahoo.com.

An Export Company

is in need of the following:

Weaver/Material Designer
Box/Packaging Designer
Household/Interior Designer
Fashion/Accessories Designer

with at least 2 years experience

Please send your resumé and salary desired to dohn_jat@yahoo.com and leila_bayron@yahoo.com not later than January 27, 2005
Interviews to be conducted in Manila and Cebu Cell # 0927-2951801

A Multinational Bank is in need of:

60 CALL CENTER AGENTS

- Earn 12,000 and above
- Good communication skills
- Open to college graduates, undergrads, and OJT's

Bring your resumé at:
Unit 2006-2007 Antel Global Corporate Center,
Julia Vargas Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig City
or at the
6F Valero Tower Condominium, Valero St. corner Rufino St.,
Salcedo Village, Makati City
Please look for Paul Clemente and/or Jenny Morales

INVITATION TO BID "AS IS WHERE IS"

Damaged Motor Vehicles

1997 Mitsubishi Lancer / USP-593
2002 Honda Civic Lxi / XEV-946
2002 Mitsubishi Adventure / XFF-534
Various defective small appliances (electric fan, rice cooker, flat iron, gas & electric stove, etc.)

For particulars, call Philam Ins. Co., Inc./ Dick Cariño. Tel.#878-54-57

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MEDICAL INFORMATION ASSOCIATE

We are looking for professionals who ...

- Can handle technical and professional discussions with doctors.
- Can provide the linkage between the client, the medical and allied professions.

You must be:

- A college graduate, preferably with Science background.
- Excellent in interpersonal relations.
- Proficient in conversational English.
- Pleasing in personality, at least 5'2" in height for females and 5'8" for male applicants.
- Willing to accept assignment anywhere in the Philippines, specifically in the areas of Ilocos, Laguna, Batangas, Quezon and Bicol.
- Not more than 28 years old.

If you have the abovementioned qualifications, please bring you application letter, resumé with picture, transcript of records, and come for an interview at:

#138 West Avenue, Quezon City
on January 24-26 at 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
e-mail: britton_dist@yahoo.com

We offer a compensation package within the industry standard, a comprehensive training program, an attractive incentive package and opportunities for career advancement.

Please come in business attire.

NOTICE OF CHANGED OF COMPANY NAME

TO: ALL VALUED CLIENTS/CUSTOMERS & SUPPLIERS:

Effective 03 January 2005 **Sumicon Philippines Corp.** adapted its new company name to **SMCC PHILIPPINES, INC.** a subsidiary of **Sumitomo Mitsui Construction Co., Ltd. of Japan** with the same location and contact numbers (2/F, Pioneer House Bldg., Paseo De Roxas, Makati City, Tel.# 8404913-15, Fax# 8404912).

For any inquiries please contact **Mr. Toto Cordero,** Marketing and Administration Manager.

SMCC PHILIPPINES, INC.
(Formerly : Sumicon Philippines Corporation)

NFA clarifies rice tender

NATIONAL Food Authority (NFA) administrator Gregorio Y. Tan, Jr. clarified that the recent bidding for the supply of 320,000 metric tons of rice that the government will import this year was in accordance with the rules and regulations of RA 9184 or the Government Procurement Act. Tan said that the terms and conditions as well as the rules on the bidding had been clarified and agreed upon by the interested rice suppliers during a pre-bidding conference held prior to the conduct of actual bidding. During the pre-bidding conference, the participating rice suppliers are given the opportunity to state their concerns about the bidding process As to the procedures in arriving at the final result of the bidding, members of NFA Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) and its Technical Working Group (TWG) considered several factors such as the lowest bid price offered and the track record of the bidders. On January 6, the NFA conducted the open bidding for the supply of 320,000 MT rice that the government through NFA will import. Five Vietnamese firms won. Out of the total volume bidded, Vietnam Southern Food Corp. (VSFC), a state-trading agency in Vietnam, was awarded the right to supply 246,000 MT; 20,500 MT each were awarded to An Giang Import Export Co, An Giang Agriculture Foods Import Export Co. and An Giang Tourimex Co. while 12,500 MT was awarded to Dong Thap Commerce. All winning bidders pegged the price of the rice imports at $281.98/MT.

DBP Development Bank of the Philippines

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID FOR GENERAL CONTRACTORS

Construction of DBP Branch Building, Baguio City

The Development Bank of the Philippines is inviting General Contractors ("Medium B" IAC Category) with experience in multi-storey building construction for Eligibility Check for the proposed construction of the DBP Branch Building in Session Road, Baguio City.

Approved Budget for the Contract	P 100,000,000.00
Source of Fund:	Approved Budget for Capital Expenditures for Construction.
Scope of Work:	Shall cover the furnishing, installation and completion of any and all necessary materials, labor, tools, equipment, supplies, utilities, transportation, superintendence / supervision and other facilities for the satisfactory performance to complete the construction of the five-storey (7-level) DBP Branch building.
Contract duration:	Three hundred sixty (360) calendar days upon issuance of notice to proceed.

Application for eligibility check is open to Contractors, who have completed five (5) construction projects in the Philippines of similar nature and magnitude (office buildings, banks or any financial institutions) as the proposed DBP project with a certification of satisfactory performance within the last ten (10) years.

Evaluation of the eligible bidders shall make use of the "pass/fail" method under RA 9184.

Schedule of Activities:

Particulars	Date	Venue
Issuance of eligibility requirements*	January 17-28, 2005	BAC Secretarial, 6th Floor, DBP Main Building
Deadline of submission of eligibility requirements and letter of intent	February 1, 2005 not later than 9:00 a.m.	OPS Conference Room, 6th Floor, DBP Main Building
Issuance of Bidding Documents to Eligible Bidders upon payment of non-refundable fee of P50,000.00	February 7-11, 2005	BAC Secretarial, 6th Floor, DBP Main Building
Pre-Bid Conference	February 15, 2005 9:00 a.m.	OPS Conference Room, 6th Floor, DBP Main Building
Submission of Technical and Financial Proposals	February 22, 2005 not later than 9:00 a.m.	OPS Conference Room, 6th Floor, DBP Main Building
Opening of Technical and Financial Proposals	February 22, 2005 9:30 a.m.	OPS Conference Room, 6th Floor, DBP Main Building

* You may download these checklist at www.devbankphilcom.ph and at the Electronic Procurement Service of the Department of Budget and Management.

For inquiries, please call telephone number 815-0945.

This bidding shall be governed by the Implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act No. 9184, , otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act", Resolutions issued by the Government Procurement Policy Board and the Construction Industry Authority of the Philippines, PCAB, pursuant to Republic Act No. 4566, as amended.

The Development Bank of the Philippines reserves the right to reject incomplete or any and all documents, which do not comply with the requirements.

BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

(PDI–Jan. 16 & 23, 2005)

Republic of the Philippines
Office of the President
Metro Manila Development Authority
PASIG RIVER REHABILITATION COMMISSION

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Project : Pasig River Environmental Management and Rehabilitation Sector Development Program (PAREMAR).
Loan No. : Asian Development Bank (ADB) Loan No. 1746-PHI
Description of Works : Construction and Development of a Linear Park along Brgy. Barangka Ibaba in Mandaluyong City.

1. The Government of the Philippines (GOP) has received a loan from the ADB toward the cost of PAREMAR and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan, together with the GOP counterpart funds, to payments under the Contract for Brgy. Barangka Ibaba Linear Park (Contract No. EPA-LPP-20).
2. The Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission (PRRC) as the executing agency now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for the following contract package:

   Contract Package : Construction and Development of a Linear Park
   Contract No. : EPA-LPP-20
   Area : 1,500 sq.m.
   Location : Brgy. Barangka Ibaba, Mandaluyong City
   Contract Duration : 120 calendar days
   Project Description : Construction and development of a linear park / promenade which includes the following items of work: basketball court, fence, barangay facilities, ferry station, electrical works, plumbing works and landscaping.
3. Interested Bidders shall secure the Bid Documents and submit bids as follows:

Activity	Date	Time	Venue	Remarks
Securing of (a) Eligibility Checklist or (b) submission of Letter of Intent and purchase of complete set of Bid Documents upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Php 11,500.00	From 24 - 28 Jan	8 am – 5 pm	PRRC 2F, MWSS Engineering Bldg. Katipunan Road, Old Balara, Quezon City 1105	Eligibility checklist is free of charge
Securing of additional eligibility information (if any) and inspection of Bidding Documents	From 24 - 28 Jan	8 am – 5 pm		For those who secured only the Eligibility Checklist
a. Pre Bid Conference	11 February	9 am		
b. Site Inspection	11 February	11 am	Brgy. Barangka, Ibaba, Mandaluyong City	Right after Pre-Bid Conference
Deadline for submission of Bids	28 February	1 pm	PRRC (same address)	Late bids (bids submitted after 1 pm) shall not be accepted
Opening of Bids	01 March	9 am		Bids shall be opened in the presence of the bidders

4. The City of Mandaluyong shall be the implementing agency of the Contract.
5. Bidding (Eligibility Check / Prequalification, Bid Evaluation and Award of Contract) shall be conducted on the basis of local competitive bidding among interested Bidders from ADB eligible source countries as defined under the *"Guidelines for Procurement by the Asian Development Bank and its Borrowers"* pursuant to the Implementing Rules and Regulations of R.A. No. 9184 and ADB Guidelines for the Procurement of Civil Works as standardized under the harmonized ADB-GOP Procurement of Works guidelines
6. PRRC-IABAC reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid and to annul the bidding process and reject all Bids at anytime prior to Contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

(Sgd.) BINGLE H. B. GUTIERREZ
Executive Director

Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission
2/F, MWSS Engineering Bldg. Katipunan Road, Old Balara, Quezon City 1105
Tel. Nos. 433-3444 and 433-3446
Email address: prrc@tri-isys.com
Fax No.: 926-6449

(PDI – Janury 16 & 23, 2005)

Republic of the Philippines
Office of the President
Metro Manila Development Authority
PASIG RIVER REHABILITATION COMMISSION

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Project Pasig River Environmental Management and Rehabilitation Sector Development Program (PAREMAR)
Loan No. Asian Development Bank (ADB) Loan No. 1746-PHI
Description of Works Construction and Development of a Linear Park along J.P. Rizal Avenue, Brgy. Guadalupe, Makati City

1. The Government of the Philippines (GOP) has received a loan from the ADB toward the cost of PAREMAR and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan, together with the GOP counterpart funds, to payment under the Contract for Brgy. Guadalupe Linear Park (Contract No. EPA-LPP-14)
2. The Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission (PRRC) as the executing agency now invites sealed Bids from Eligible Bidders for the following contract Package:

   Contract Package Construction and Development of Guadalupe Linear Park
   Contract No. EPA-LPP-14
   Area 6,579.37 sq.m.
   Location Along J.P. Rizal Avenue, Brgy. Guadalupe, Makati City
   Contract Duration 120 calendar days
   Project Description Construction and development of a linear park / promenade which includes the following items of work: demolition, hauling/disposal of refuse materials, concrete works, site improvements, supply and installation of park elements, softscape elements, painting works, electrical works and drainage and plumbing works.
3. Interested Bidders shall secure the Bid Documents and submit bids as follows:

Activity	Date	Time	Venue	Remarks
Securing of (a) Eligibility Checklist or (b) submission of Letter of Intent and purchase of complete set of Bid Documents upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Php 15,000.00	1-4 Feb	8 am – 5 pm	PRRC 2F, MWSS Engr. Bldg. Katipunan Road, - Old Balara, Quezon City, 1105	Eligibility checklist free of charge
Securing of additional eligibility information (if any) and inspection of Bidding Documents	1-4 Feb.	8 am – 5 pm		For those who secured only the Eligibility Checklist
a. Site Inspection	18 Feb.	9 am	J.P. Rizal Avenue, Brgy. Guadalupe, Makati City	
b. Pre-Bid Conference	18 Feb.	1 pm	J.P. Rizal Avenue, Makati City Hall	After Site Inspection
Deadline for submission of Bids	4 Mar	8 am	J.P. Rizal Avenue, Makati City Hall	Late bids (bids submitted after 8 am shall not be accepted
Opening of Bids.	4 Mar	9 am	J.P. Rizal Avenue, Makati City Hall	Bids shall be opened in the presence of the bidders

4. The City of Makati shall be the implementing agency of the Contract
5. Bidding (Eligibility Check / Prequalification, Bid Evaluation and Award of Contract) shall be conducted on the basis of local competitive bidding among interested Bidders from ADB eligible source countries as defined under the "Guidelines for Procurement by the Asian Development Bank and its Borrowers" pursuant to the Implementing Rules and Regulations of R.A. No. 9184 and ADB Guidelines for the Procurement of Civil Works as standardized under the harmonized ADB-GOP Procurement of Works guidelines.
6. PRRC-IABAC reserves the right to reject any Bid and to annul the bidding process and reject all Bids at anytime prior to Contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

(Sgd.) BINGLE H. B. GUTIERREZ
Executive Director

Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission
2/F, MWSS Engineering Bldg. Katipunan Road, Old Balara, Quezon City 1105
Tel. Nos. 433-3444 and 433-3446
Email address: prrc@tri-isys.com
Fax No.: 926-6449

(PDI – January 22 & 23, 2005)

Republic of the Philippines
Province of Negros Oriental
City of Bayawan
BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The City Government of Bayawan thru its BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE invites interested suppliers to apply for eligibility and to bid for the supply and delivery of the following items:

BID NO.	PR NO.	ITEMS	ABC	SOURCE OF FUNDS	DATE/TIME	
					Pre-bid Conference	Deadline/Opening Of Bids
05-001	05-001	1 unit Motor Grader (Articulated, good reconditioned unit)	3,000,000.00	General Fund	2:00 PM, 01/31/2005	10:30 AM, 02/14/2005
05-002	05-006	IT Equipment	4,000,000.00	General Fund	2:00 PM, 01/31/2005	10:30 AM, 02/14/2005
05-003	JO 05-006	To supply and deliver fuel for the LGU Operations CY 2005		General Fund	2:00 PM, 01/31/2005	10:30 AM, 02/14/2005

Place of Delivery: FOB BAYAWAN CITY WAREHOUSE. Period of Delivery: 12 Calendar Days upon receipt of Purchase Order; Warranty Required: 3 months for supplies, 1 year for equipment. Retention money or special bank guarantee equivalent to 10% of contract price will be withheld to cover such warranty obligation.

In order to qualify for participation in the public bidding, the bidders should conform to all the eligibility criteria as prescribed under Section 23 of IRR-A of Republic Act No. 9184.

Bid documents shall be available at the BAC Office, Annex Building Sports Complex Building, LGU Bayawan City starting January 17, 2005 upon payment of prescribed non-refundable fee.

Bidders shall drop their duly accomplished eligibility requirements, technical and financial proposals in two separate envelopes in the bid boxes at the BAC Office, Bayawan City on or before the deadline of submission of bids.

All particulars relative to eligibility process, opening and evaluation of bids, post-qualification and award of contract shall be governed by the applicable provisions of RA 9184.

The City of Bayawan reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any defects or formality therein and to accept bids considered responsive and most advantageous to the government.

Details of bid items are posted at the official website of the City of Bayawan, the www.bayawancity.gov.ph, the G-EPS, and at the BAC Bulletin Boards, LGU Bayawan City. For more information, please contact the BAC Secretariat at Telephone Numbers (035) 531-0636 and 531-0020 local 202

(Sgd) PANCHO F. VILLASIS
City Administrator Chairman, BAC

(PDI– January 16 & 23, 2005)

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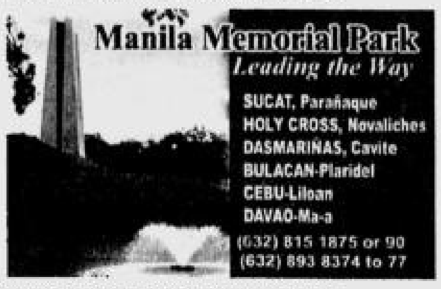
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HOLY CROSS, Novaliches
DASMARIÑAS, Cavite
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892-5578;
811-4361;
811-4370

KALAW:
528-0213;
527-3342

MEGAMALL:
635-0219;
635-0220

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life." John 3:16

FORTUNATA GARROVILLAS FRANCISCO

of Teresa, Rizal and West Covina, California
Died in the Grace of our Lord on January 18, 2005
at West Covina, California at the age of 83.

A loving wife to **Dr. Fulgencio C. Francisco**; a wonderful mother to **Edwin & Diwie Francisco, Ted & Thelma Tualla, Jose & Alita Bonifacio**; and a caring grandmother to **Edwin John, Edwin Renz, Winnie Ann, Lawrence Philipp, Grace Shelly & Kristine Rose.**

Survivors and brother **Taciano Garrovillas** (†); sisters **Pilar G. Reyes** (†) & **Fermina G. Pinto**; brothers & sisters-in-law, nephews, nieces and relatives request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her body will arrive on Wednesday, January 26, 2005 and will lie in state at the family residence in P. Santiago St., Poblacion, Teresa, Rizal.

Interment will be on Saturday, January 29, 2005 at Forever Lasting Gardens after the 1:00PM Mass at Teresa Parish Church.

Bonifacia Marzan-Matutina

Peacefully joined our Creator
on January 22, 2005 at the age of 77.

Her loving husband **LETO**; children **LORIE & JOSEPH, FLOR & GREGG, AU & CRIS,** and **CECILLE**; grandchildren **JOREN, JOMAR, LOIS, DON, KRISHA, TOM** and **NICO,** request the pious readers to pray for her eternal rest and everlasting happiness.

Her remains lie in state at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish Church, Mahinhin St., UP Village, Quezon City (beside Claret School).

Interment will be at the Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina City.

Our Dearly Beloved

Leoncia "Lucing" Suarez Mendoza

of Aya, Talisay, Batangas
and Elmhurst, New York

Peacefully joined our Creator on January 19, 2005 at the age of 68, and now rests in His infinite warmth and embrace.

We, her husband **FLORENTINO MENDOZA**; her mother **JULIANA SUAREZ**; her brothers **BENJAMIN, LEODEGARIO, CANDIDO** and **AURELIO**; her sister **FRANCISCA**; her children **OMIE** and **ELSA**; her daughter-in-law **AGNES**; her grandchildren, nieces, nephews, in-laws and relatives, request fervent prayers and special petitions for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at our residence at Brgy. Aya, Talisay, Batangas.

Interment will take place at the Talisay Catholic Cemetery on a date to be announced later.

Please omit flowers.
Donations to the San Guillermo Parish Church
in Talisay, Batangas will be deeply appreciated.

WE DESIGN OBITUARY FOR FREE.

We, the children of

Capt. Ildefonso Florete Labayen

are happy that we made him feel loved
all his life.

Our mother, **Salud**, will be consoled by your presence at
the Nuestra Sra. de Salvacion Funeral Chapel,
Legaspi City (Jan. 21-23)
and their residence in Bulan, Sorsogon (Jan. 24-26).

Interment will be at the
Bulan Catholic Cemetery on January 26 at 1 p.m.

The Ferrer – Nepomuceno Clan of the late

HELENITA (PINKY) FERRER NEPOMUCENO-NITUDA

(February 17, 1955 – December 17, 2004)

We send fragrant bouquet of prayers and gratitude

TO OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN

Thank you for *Pinky* – she was truly God's gift of beauty & brains, the Clan's pride & honor. Now that You enfold her in your embrace, keep her with You, together with her Dads, in heaven.

TO OUR FIL-AM-CANADIAN

Relatives & loved ones, *Pinky's* PWU & Maryknoll Classmates, Friends, UP Law Colleagues, Office Mates, who attended the 5-day wake & who texted or called to convey their sympathies and condolences.

Please join the Prayer Brigade organized by the Mother (Ret.) Prosecutor **FLORADORA F. NEPOMUCENO**; in Ottawa, Canada by the Sisters **Amy & Rose**, in Salinas, CA. by Brother **DERECH**, Devarim of the Fellowship of Yeshua, the Messiah, in New York, USA, by Aunt & Friend **Cynthia Ferrer-Manalo**, in Macon, Georgia, by Aunt **Bebeng N. Dy**, in Q.C. Philippines, by Aunts **Medy & Norma Nepomuceno**, for *Pinky's* eternal peace & happiness in heaven.

LEONISA MALLARE DE JESUS

Passed away January 13, 2005
in Arcadia, California.

Beloved wife of the late **Rodolfo Sr.**, she is survived by her children **Jose, Ricardo (Lourdes), Leoncia (Michael), Trifonia (Agapito), Reynaldo (Cora), Emmanuel (Linda), Buenaventura, Antonio (Marissa), Rodolfo, Jr., Ariel, Cesar, Lorna (Jun), Emma (Ricky), Oscar (Eileen), Preciosa (Romeo)**; thirty-one grandchildren and seven great grandchildren. She also leaves her sisters **Catalina, Luisa, Teresita** and **Rizalina**, and her brother **Jose Jr.**

A funeral Mass was conducted on January 17 in Sierra Madre, California before Inay returned home for the last time to be with Itay.

Viewing begins on Sunday, January 23, at 2 pm at Funeraria Paz Chapel in Manila Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque, Metro Manila.

Interment will follow on Tuesday, January 25, at 3 pm.

DR. REMBERTO G. CUISIA

Peacefully joined our Creator on 20 January 2005
at the age of 70.

His beloved wife, **Dr. Elena S. Cuisia**; children **Rey & Cecille, Roland & Maya, Tato & Ria, Gigi & Ronald, Via & Darshan**; grandchildren, relatives and friends request fervent prayers and special petitions for the repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Chapel A-3 La Funeraria Paz, G. Araneta Ave., Q.C.

Interment will be on January 25, 2005, 2:00pm at the Holy Cross Memorial Park, Novaliches, Quezon City.

CONCEPCION R. MENDOZA

of Sta. Ana, Manila

Peacefully joined our Creator last December 5, 2004,
in Los Angeles, California.

Her bereaved husband **Greg**; children **Kim & Ricky, Pinky & Eddie, Redi & Nina, Boyet & Loida** brothers & sisters, relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her cremains will arrive today, January 23, 2005 and will lie in state at 2:00 p.m. at the Capilla San Francisco, Sanctuario de San Antonio, Forbes Park, Makati City.

Interment will be on Tuesday, January 25, 2005 at the Manila South Cemetery after the 9:00 AM Mass.

We love you ... We miss you ... We'll never forget you

COLONEL BENJAMIN G. TOTANES PA (Ret)

On his First Death Anniversary
(January 22, 2004)

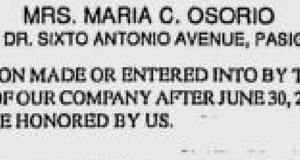
His wife and children request his friends and relatives to offer prayers for eternal peace of his soul.

CLASSIFIEDS

PHILAM LIFE

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

THE PUBLIC IS HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT MRS. MARIA C. OSORIO WHOSE PICTURE AND ADDRESS APPEAR BELOW HAS CEASED TO REPRESENT THE PHILIPPINE AMERICAN LIFE AND GENERAL INSURANCE COMPANY IN ANY CAPACITY WHATSOEVER IN VIEW OF THE TERMINATION OF HER AGENCY CONTRACT EFFECTIVE JUNE 30, 2004.



MRS. MARIA C. OSORIO
68 – L. DR. SIXTO ANTONIO AVENUE, PASIG CITY

ANY TRANSACTION MADE OR ENTERED INTO BY THIS PERSON FOR AND IN BEHALF OF OUR COMPANY AFTER JUNE 30, 2004 IS NOT VALID AND WILL NOT BE HONORED BY US.

(PDI - Jan 23, 2005)

USAID

DISPOSAL SALE

USAID/Manila will conduct a Sealed Bid Sale of used residential and office furniture/equipment, Chevy '98 S-10 Pick-up and Forklift, on an "AS IS-WHERE IS" basis.

Bedroom Furniture
Headboards, frames
Tables
Chest of drawers
Servers
Buffets
Computer tables
and other
miscellaneous items

Living Room Furniture
Sofa and Easy chairs
Mattresses
China Cabinets
Mirrors
Nightstands
Office Stands

Dining Room Furniture
Chest of drawers
Dining Room chairs
Etageres
Bookcases
Swivel Chairs
Filing Cabinets

All items can be inspected on January 31 - February 1, 2005 from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m .and 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Items can be inspected at USAID Warehouse: 2345 Aurora Blvd., (formerly Tramo St.) Pasay City. Bidforms are available at the site. Submission of bids and cash deposits (20% of the total bid) can be done at the site during the sale. Full payment and bid deposit refund will be done starting February 3, 2005 at 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the USAID/Cashier, 8th Floor, PNB Financial Center, Roxas Blvd., Pasay City.

For further information, please call Mr. Romy S. Arquisola or Mr. Alfredo Q. Daluz at Tel. Nos. 852-9684, 514-4229, 514-4234 and 514-4236.

"I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."

John 14:6

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

VALENTINE TREATS !!!

UNIONBANK

SPECIAL PUBLIC AUCTION

ONLY 10% DOWNPAYMENT !! GUARANTEED FINANCING !!

February 12, 2005
Saturday 9:00 AM
P.C. Reyes Room, 2/F

13% P.A. FIXED FOR THE FIRST 3 YRS. 15% P.A. FIXED FOR THE NEXT 12 YRS.

Philippine Columbian Sports Club, Plaza Dilao, Paco, Manila
Call: Joy, Joey, Ariel, Jules & Cathy at # 893-8614 / 893-8620
813-0455 / 840-0140 / 892-0011 Loc. 2655; 2651; 2829; 2619
e-mail us at: esbabas@unionbankph.com or visit us at: www.unionbankph.com

RESIDENTIAL

LAS PINAS – Pamplona (near SM)	MIN BID
Teresa Park Royale Subd. - via Royal South	
1. Lot-24 Blk.-12, Freedon Park Road / L.A.- 152.30	648,000
2. Lot-25 Blk.-12, Pasorance Park Road / L.A.- 111.40	474,000

QUEZON CITY	MIN BID
3. Condo / Unit-1,4/F, San Jose Condo.#119 Sct.Fernandez St. Brgy.Sacred Heart / F.A.- 42 w/ parking slot (near church)	700,000
4. H&L/# 269 M.Aquino St. Banlat Rd,T.Sora.LA-120 / FA-191 (near St.Anthony Schl & NPC Subd)	1,700,000

CAINTA - Riverside Subd.	MIN BID
5. H&L / # 3 Maganda St, Sto. Domingo. LA-341/FA-272(near junction)	1,600,000

MUNTINLUPA - Tunasan	MIN BID
Victoria Hms. Subd.- via Magsaysay Rd.	
6. L-125-B-3-A, Almond St/LA-436	1,069,000

MALABON	MIN BID
7. H&L/# 8 Don Basilio Bautista Blvd, Hulong Duhat LA-886 / FA-847	7,100,000

MALABON- Brgy. Dampalit	MIN BID
North Merville Park-I Subdivision	
8. L-23 B-9, D.Rosario St./ LA-285	364,000
9. L-15 B-8, R. Cruz St/ LA-285	437,000
* With occupants *	
10. Lot-31, M.Sioson St/LA-25.89	22,100
11. Lot-29, M.Sioson St/LA-99.71	170,000
12. L-1 B-14, J.Cancio St/LA-186	190,000
13. Lot-19 Blk.-13-A / L.A.-168	215,000
14. L-53 B-9, D.Rosario St / LA-281	359,000
15. L-28 B-4, Eusebio St /LA-398	508,000

VALENZUELA CITY	MIN BID
Access via East Service Rd., Malinta Exit	
16. Lot / Lot-551-A-2-A-3, Pineda Compd, Bonifacio St./LA-1,114	2,241,000
17. Hse.& Lot / Lot-4-A, B & C, F. Bautista St.cor.Compd.Rd. Ugong / L.A.-3,195 / F.A.-115 * WITH LIS PENDENS *	8,432,000

ANTIPOLO, RIZAL	MIN BID
18. L-20 B-17, Jerusalem St.Ph-5 Brgy.Uulan/LA-120 (via Tikling Junction & Melendres Subd.)	332,000
19. L-23 B-10, Cottonwood Hts. Bayugo /LA-266 (near Sumulong)	2,049,000
20. L-21 B-2, Birchwood St, Cottonwood Hts, Bayugo / LA-355	2,734,000
21. Lot-47 Blk-18,Park Ridge Est. Ph.-3 (via Valley Golf) LA-811	2,058,000
22. L-17 B-1, Beverly St, Sta. Barbara-1 Luxury Est,Mission Hills,Colaique/LA-1,021 (near Pines City)	4,102,000

ANGONO RZL.- via Antipolo	MIN BID
23. L-6 B-2, Mills St, Sta. Monica Classic Est,Ph-3,Mission Hills Brgy Colaique/LA-540 (near Pines City)	2,096,000

PASIG - Ortigas Center	MIN BID
24. Condo.-4BR, 5TB, Maid's Rm., Pkng./Unit-2802 AIC Gold Twr. Emerald Ave./ F.A.- 187.17 (near Robinsons & Poveda Schl)	6,900,000

CALOOCAN CITY	MIN BID
25. Lot / Lot-25 & 26 Blk.-31, 2nd St., Gracepark / L.A.- 388.60 (In between 3rd & 4th Avenue)	4,300,000

BULACAN - MALOLOS	MIN BID
26. H&L / Lot 2 & 3 Blk-17,Desta Ave. cor. 1st St., Desta Hms. Brgy. Atlag. LA-515/FA-293.84 (near Sto. Cristo Diversion Rd.)	3,100,000

BICOL - Camarines Sur	MIN BID
- near Calagbangan, Sipocot crossing -	
27. Lot-450-B, Maharlika H-way / LA1,620	120,000
28. Lot-450-C, Maharlika H-way / LA1,620	120,000

TAGAYTAY CITY	MIN BID
In between Sta. Rosa short-cut & Aguinaldo H-way	
29. Lot/Lot-8, Tagaytay-Calamba Rd.,Brgy. Tolentino-West (over looking Taal Lake) L.A.- 2,156 * WITH LIS PENDENS *	20,000,000

TARLAC CITY	MIN BID
30. Agro-Indl / Lot-3871-D,Sapang Maragul,Tibag /LA-10,001-near arch	3,315,000

NUEVA ECIJA - Cab. City	MIN BID
# 529 Pag-Asa, Daan Sarili (near L.T.O.)	
31. Res'l. Lot 3-A-6 / LA-1,820.62	400,000
32. Res'l. Lot 2-A / LA-2,535.36	1,388,000
33. 2 Sty. Res'l./ Lot-2-G N.L.A.-1,881.9 / F.A.-138	4,022,000

RESIDENTIAL

MAKATI - Brgy. Singkamas	MIN BID
Maskardo St. (beside Mktl. Coliseum)	
34. Lot / Lot-1 Blk-23 / L.A.- 282	3,600,000
35. Lot / Lot-2 Blk-23 / L.A.- 315	4,023,000
* WITH EXISTING CASE *	

Orchard Res'l. Estates and Golf & Country Club - Salitran, Dasmarinas, Cavite,	
FAIRWAY LOTS	
36. Lot-27 Blk.-17 / L.A.- 826	3,147,000
37. Lot-52 Blk.-17 / L.A.- 1,130	4,294,000
38. Lot-93 Blk.-48 / L.A.- 783	2,976,000
NON - FAIRWAY LOTS	
39. Lot-09 Blk.-37 / L.A.- 672	2,016,000
40. Lot-35 Blk.-37 / L.A.- 687	2,061,000
41. Lot-67 Blk.-48 / L.A.- 506	1,518,000

CAVITE - Mla. Southwoods	MIN BID
42. Lot-16 Block-1, Ph.-1, Brgy. Baybay, Carmona / LA-1,224	6,577,000

CAVITE- Naic, Brgy. Palangue	MIN BID
Mango Orchard Res'l. & Farm Estates	
43. Lot-6 Blk.-18 / L.A.- 1,468	1,468,000
44. Lot-5 Blk.-19 / L.A.- 964	964,000
45. Lot-6 Blk.-19 / L.A.- 1,194	1,194,000
46. Lot-4 Blk.-19-A / L.A.- 2,953	2,953,000
47. Lot-10 Blk.-19-B / L.A.- 2,245	2,245,000

COMMERCIAL

PARANAQUE	MIN BID
48. Lot-1-B & 1-C, San Dionisio Net LA-9,562 (back of SM & access beside Shell stn) *W/ Lis Pendens	25,161,000
49. Comm'l.Lot w/ Bldgs./ Lot 7-B Angelina Canaynay Ave., San Dionisio / LA-3,066 / FA-1,460 (Across Evacom) *Portion is on Lease	47,000,000

MAKATI CITY	MIN BID
50. Condo. 5/F Millenium Plaza Mktl.Ave.cor Eduque St/FA-261.24	17,765,000
51. Lot-1-B & 2-B, Buendia Ave. cor. Marconi St./ T.L.A.-472	20,636,000

MANILA	MIN BID
52. 2/F KP Twr.,CM Recto Ave. cor. Juan Luna St./ FA-658	28,792,000

QUEZON CITY	MIN BID
53. Comm'l. bldg / Lots 8 & 9 Blk-S-27, Timog Ave/LA-1,380 FA-1,500 (near Unionbank Br. & GMA-7) * ON LEASE *	70,000,000
54. Lot w/ Warehse/#185 Roosevelt Ave., San Francisco Del Monte / LA-5,641 / FA-3,454 (near Unionbank Br.-Del Monte)	140,000,000
55. Lot w/ Warehse./ # 138 Gen. Luis cor. Pasacola Rd., Brgy. Nagkaisang Nayon,Novaliches L.A.- 49,504 / F.A.- 23,384	300,000,000

NUEVA ECIJA - Cab. City	MIN BID
# 529 Pag-Asa, Daan Sarili (near L.T.O.)	
56. Comml. Lot w/ Whse.& Ofc. Lot-2-H/NLA-2,260.67/FA-580	5,098,000
57. Agri. Lot /Lot-3-B/NLA-37,041	2,366,000

VALENZUELA CITY	MIN BID
58. Indl. Lot / Lot-301-B-1, Brgy Maysan / Net L.A.- 3,269	1,906,000
59. Ind'l. Lot / Lot-2, 6-A, 4-A & B 3, 6-B-1 & 2, Maysan *No right of way* Net LA-12,516 (via Viongco St)	8,003,000
60. Warehse./ Lot-13-Templanza St., Don Pedro Vill., Marulas LA-2,540/FA-3,314 -near Savory Rest.	20,232,000
61. Ind'l. Lot w/ 2 W'hses.(14&16) Barracks, Canteen,Guardhse. Lot-1075-D-1-C, Plastic City # 6 T.Santiago St, Canumay-West. LA-9,923 / FA-7,096	39,703,000
62. Ind'l. Lot w/ Bldgs./Lot-382-G Plastic City Housing,Canumay L.A.-25,798 / F.A.-5,310 (via T Santiago & Pinagbayanan Sts.)	51,000,000

TAGUIG - Global City Fort Boni	MIN BID
(Infront of Adidas Sports Camp)	
63. Lot-3 Blk.-18 / L.A.- 1,643	164,300,000

TARLAC CITY	MIN BID
Town proper - infront of Ice plant	
64. Lot-4-C, Rizal St. / L.A.-759	8,093,000
65. Lot-4-B,Rizal cor.Panganiban Sts. / L.A.- 1,102	11,752,000

SARIAYA - QUEZON PROV.	MIN BID
66. Agri.Lot w/ resl H&L,W'hse.& Piggery/Lot-6181-A-5-A-1-A-1-I Psd.4A-001202, Bo. Sampaloc TLA-101,038.65 / TFA-9,277 (near bridge of Bo. Sampaloc)	45,053,000

JUST BRING P20,000SHOW MONEY(CASH OR MC) TO QUALIFY TO BID FOR EACH PROPERTY. CWT IS FOR THE BUYER'S ACCOUNT. ALL PROPERTIES FOR SALE ARE ON "AS IS WHERE IS" BASIS Unionbank may, at anytime, withdraw any of the properties listed above prior to auction.

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

CARS FOR RENT

NISSAN URVAN 6424405

P800/L3 9136710 / 4333692

RENT A VAN 627-8910

Toyoo U Drive w/ Driver All Kinds Cars Van Revo Dly. Wk.Mo. Rental 8023021-22

VAN 4 HIRE 9296376

ABC RENT A CAR
HI-ACE • STAREX
L300 • CRV • REVO
HONDA • VIOS • ALTIS • LYNX • CRLA
MLA : 836-8822 • 303-9789
Q.C.: 426-2278 • 426-4084

CAR LOAN

1.5% Car Loan 5344441

1.5% CARLOAN 373-6519

CAR LOAN

1.5% Easy Car Loan 4112847/48

1.5% Easy Carloan 7815352/55

1.5% Fast Car Loan 6560140

1.5% w/oTaking Car 3850974/76

1.5% w/oTaking Car 7228942-43

1.5% w/oTaking Car 7228942-43

•1HR Fast Car Loan 7125202•

2% w/o Taking Car 7262780

2% w/o taking car 7690183-84

2% w/oTaking Car 6966630/33

2% w/oTaking Car 3732081/82

2% w/oTaking Car 8959454

2% w/oTaking Car 8870490/95

CAR LOAN

2% w/oTaking Car 7221021

2% w/out taking car 5315577

2% w/out taking car 6567665

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

OTHER EQUIPMENT

L MACHINES FOR SALE Tel#8544230 Mrs. Marzan

RUSH SALE !!
Lathe Machine (Holbrook)
Induction Motors 1-60 HP
3 Tons Hoist (Mitshubishi)
3-5 Tons SplitType Aircon Etc.
January 28 to 29, 2005
Tel. Nos. 8542183 8512827

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

HEAVY EQUIPMENT

HEAVY EQUIPMENT

HEAVY EQUIPMENT

WANTED TO BUY/LEASE

ASPHALT PLANT (Complete Set)
Min. 35 tons / hr. Capacity,
Preferably w/ Asphalt Paver

CONCRETE BATCHING PLANT
Wet Type, Min. 40 cu. m. / hr. capacity
Must be in **Good Operating Condition**

Send offer: **JUN BORJE**
Tel. No. 520-8050
Cel No. 09196013347
Email: **sta.clara@pacific.net.ph**

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

BILLIARDS

Sale/Rental/Service 8014404

BUY/SELL

EDUC PALN 2528373/2557990

GARAGE SALE

BIG GRGE OFC SALE desks chairs aircons filing cabinet fans etc 704-6963

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

YAMAHA GRAND & UPRIGHT
ELITE PIANO CENTER
Almost New:TERMS-7213124

OFFICE EQUIPMENT

SHARP Digital Copier P300T Neg. For Inqs: Call 633-8116

PETS

5M / 5F Dalmatian champline w/ papers 09273995937 Allan

Doberman Pups 8Wks F-7.5 M-7 PCCI Reg. Grandparents Champ 6716014

DOG TRAINER 0919-2050952

Jap. Spitz M/F 2T 9332398

LABRADOR 0917-2468730

LABRADOR M/F Blk 8T@ F Choc.12T@ Pups 4shots / w/ PCCI papers 0920-3871001

PUG PUPS Male 15T
• 09177930213 / 8741366 •

•PUGS•WRINKLED 3728231

ROTTWEILER For Sale 2 mo. champ line with red marks complete shots and papers. Pls call 7426537 or 0917-5213323

PCCI
332TH PCCI & 333rd PCCI
ALL-BREEDS
DOGSHOWS
January 29 & 30, 2005
RIVER BANKS
CENTER
MARIKINA CITY
UNDER INT'L JUDGES
MR. TOM BURKE
(CAN)
Mr. JOHN
KEARNEY (CAN)
STRICTLY NO
ADDENDUM
Waiting for
Handlers During
PCCI Shows Is no
longer Allowed
THE SHOW
WILL START AT
EXACTLY 9:00 AM
CORPORATE SPONSORS.
ADVANCE
SCIENCE DIET

WANTED TO BUY

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LOW 5% INTEREST
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OPEN MONDAY TO SATURDAY

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE OR RENT

COMMERCIAL

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE OR RENT

COMMERCIAL

FURNITURE FACTORY (For Lease or Sale) (located near South Superhighway Zansibar St. Makati) 4 storey Glass Façade Bldg. w/ steel structural frame 3,500sqm on 850m lot; 3–Phase Line; Heavy duty lift from G/F to 4/F; Sale price-P70M (Neg.) / For Lease-P500,000/mo. (Neg.); Call 809-6822 (Sat. & Sun.) / 817-8465 or 750-3240 / 09178198863.

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

WANTED TO BUY

WE BUY AT HIGH PRICE
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5633742 0917-8473744

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JEWELRY, DIAMONDS
ROLEX, PAWNTICKETS
& Other Swiss Watches Fast Cash
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BUYING ROLEX
Other WATCHES, BEST PRICE
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7220433 • 4123543

PUBLIC NOTICES

ANNOUNCEMENT

WE BUY OLD HOUSES
READY FOR OCCUPANCY
951-1366 ; 0927-7115000

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the ESTATE OF the late CANDIDO GARCIA SALVADOR was extra-judicially settled among her heirs by means of public instruments, duly authenticated by Consulate General of the Republic of the Philippines, VICE-CONSUL NOEMI T. DIAZ, in City of Los Angeles, State of California, USA, under Doc. No. 13643, Series of 2004; AND by public instruments, duly notarized as per Doc. No. 3, Page No. 2, Book No. 1, Series of 2004 NOTARY PUBLIC DANIEL GRANADOS DATUIN.
(PDI-Jan. 16, 23 & 30, 2005)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late BENJAMIN ANTONIO and ESTEFANIA ANTONIO was settled by their heirs through an extrajudicial partition acknowledged before Notary Public Allan A. Pasamonte for and in the City of Manila as per Doc No. 288 on Page 59; Book 4; Series of 2004 of his Notarial Register
(PDI-January 16, 23 & 30, 2005)

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF LOSS

Notice is hereby given that the plate No. PYH 6391 under the name of LUZ BERCEROWAS was lost as per Doc No. 329; Page No. 66; Book No. XXVIII; Series of 2003.
PDI-Jan 23, 30 & Feb 6, 2005

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

2005 BUSINESS
Instant Rubber Stamp Mchine in 10mins. w/Free Key Duplicator 8542183 8512827

EARN XTRA NOW 30K UP 09173842058

NOTICE OF LOSS

The public is hereby informed that Invoice Nos. 249 and 250 of Faire Technologies Inc., MC Home Builders Depot Makati City Branch has been stolen and/or taken from the Company premises without proper authorization.

Any transaction entered into by any person or entity using or involving the aforementioned invoices will not be honored by Faire Technologies Inc.

The Management
Faire Technologies Inc.

(PDI--Jan. 23, 2005)

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Accounting graduate
1 year exp.
706 IPI Buendia
Tower Pasay City.

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

CAREGIVER TRAINING CENTER W/WTR OWNER MIGRATING CALL (0918)5183287

Invest P7,000, Earn up to P16,000 a day.
5%-70% discount on name brand items Call James Javier Cell# 0920-4780482

RTW Wholesaler 3738821

Start ur business 4 P5,880 Earn 10T/day 0919-4241555

Work Thru Phone 09192235381

DEALERSHIP

Grape Seed XTRAK 09209233649

Red (Energy) & Green (Diet) Iced Tea 09209233649

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PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE
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Camp Crame, Quezon City

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The Traffic Management Group Bids and Awards Committee (TMB BAC) invites interested bidder to bid for transport requirement of TMG describe as follows:

Asia Utility Vehicle 5 door lift back rear door
Engine 1600 cc Gasoline fed
Manually operated
Seating Capacity – 10 passengers
Body color & markings – white with 2 blue horizontal stripe and appropriate TMG/PNP Markings seal as specified in NAPOLCOM Resolution No. 99-002 dated Jan 1999
Standard vehicles accessories:
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Only bidders accredited by PNP will be allowed to participate in the following activities: (Bidders are advised to submit / apply for accreditation requirements to PNP Directorate for Research and Development).

ACTIVITY	DATE	TIME	VENUE
Submission of Sealed Bid and Pre Bid Requirement	18 Feb. 05	0900H	TMG Conference Room

FOR INQUIRY : Call Tel. No. 721-85-11
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(PDI – Jan. 23, 30 & Feb. 6, 2005)

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Minimum Bid Price P8,958,021.00

Lot 2 – Res'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 601 sqm L1-D-9-E
Clemente Subd, Brgy.Zone IV (Center Paredes), Koronadal City
Minimum Bid Price P 940,000.00

Lot 3–Res'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 277 sqm L1-A Siodina Subd. Barrio1, Koronadal City
Minimum Bid Price P 305,440.00

Lot 4 – Res'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 588 sqm L13-I-8&9
Ardena Subd, Purok Hillside, Brgy. Sta. Cruz, Koronadal City
Minimum Bid Price P 281,920.00

Lot 5 – Res'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 375 sqm L2 Blk5 Lebanan Subd Zone I, Poblacion, Koronadal City, South
Minimum Bid Price P 538,617.00

Lot 6 - Res'l. Lot LA 374 sqm
L13 Blk7 Pantua Vill, Zone III Poblacion, Koronadal City, South
Minimum Bid Price P 240,000.00

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Lot 25 – L20 Blk11 LA 304 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 608,000.00

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LA 320 sqm
L41 Blk 2, Diamond St., EcolandSubd.
Minimum Bid Price P 2,552,143.00

Lot 27 – Res'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 270 sqm 87- A Molave St., Nova Tierra Village, Lanang
Minimum Bid Price P 4,127,355.00

Lot 28 – Res'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 236 sqm, FA 331 sqm
L11 Blk3 Waling-waling St, Garden Park Vill., Bajada
Minimum Bid Price P 3,513,291.00

Lot 29 – Res'l. w/ Imprvmnt
LA 300 sqm Narra St., Nova Tierra Village, Lanang
Minimum Bid Price P 1,100,000.00

Lot 30 – Res'l. w/ Imprvmnt
LA 480 sqm 6th B St., Ecoland Subd., Ph1, Matina
Minimum Bid Price P 1,996,800.00

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Lot 32 - Lot 7-O-2 LA 2,000 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 450,000.00

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Lot 33–Res'l./Industrial Lot
LA3,922sqm Lot12-E-1 Brgy.Tambler
Minimum Bid Price P 2,353,200.00

Lot 34 - Res'l. Lot LA 1,647sqm
Lot 21-I-1 & 21-I-5-R Brgy. Tambler
Minimum Bid Price P 461,160.00

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Lot 35–Res'l./Comm'l., Lot
LA1,104sqm L593-G-3 & G-4-B Canos St., Poblacion
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Lot 37 – Res'l. Lot LA 496 sqm
Lot6756-T-5-A Brgy. San Pablo, Tacurong City
Minimum Bid Price P 130,200.00

Lot 38 –Res'l. w/ Imprvmnt
LA 2,099sqm 1st Block, Purok Rosal, Brgy. New Isabela, Tacurong
Minimum Bid Price P 1,023,375.00

Lot 39 – Industrial Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 35,150sqm, FA 17,295sqm
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Lot 41 –Res'l. w/ Imprvmnt
LA 2,141sqm Lot A-11-C-7-D-1 Brgy. Lumbo, Valencia City
Minimum Bid Price P 824,760.00

BUTUAN

Lot 42 – Industrial Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 23,301sqm, FA 9,044sqm
L1-A & 2 Km. 4 Baan
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Lot 43 – Res'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 1,092 sqm, FA 639 sqm
L39 Blk1 SapphireSt, GoldenVill, Carmen
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Res l. Lots, Xavier Estates, Upper Balulang
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Minimum Bid Price P 1,536,000.00
Lot 45 – L16 Blk14 Ph1 LA 287 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 849,520.00

Lot 46 – Industrial w/ Imprvmnt
LA 2,305sqm Gaabucayan Ext.,Puntod
Minimum Bid Price P 17,573,350.00

Lot 47 - Comm'l. LA 846 sqm
Comm'l Lot # 2 , Osmeña Ext.,
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Lot 1 Corrales Ave. Ext.,
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Lot 53 – Res'l. Condo. FA 185.87 sqm
Unit 1605 Chateau De Baie Condo. Roxas Blvd., cor Airport Rd, Baclaran(near airport)
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Unit 13 Capitol Golf Townhomes & Golfers Villas, Capitol Hills (near Ateneo & UP)
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Lot 55 –Res'l. w/ Imprvmnt LA160sqm
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TUTOTRS/ADMIN/ACTG/CLE PNU UP DLSU ADMU GRADS CALL 414-5200/413-0920

HOUSEHOLD

EFFICIENT MAIDS PROV'L & CITY ALL AROUND MAIDS SCREENED W/REF. NBI POL. CLEAR. 873-7055•873-5062•873-7057

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NEWLY ARRIVED PROVINCIAL MAIDS MIDWIFE NURSE YAYA COOK LABA H'GIRL/BOY DRIVER SCREENED W/CLEAR. CALL "JOY" 872-2702•872-0266•873-5271

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

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REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

UCPB PROPERTY MARKET

10% DOWNPAYMENT **11% INTEREST** **10 YEARS TO PAY**

VALENTINE AUCTION

FEBRUARY 26, 2005 • 9:00 A.M.
UCPB BLDG., MAKATI AVE., MAKATI CITY

LAS PIÑAS CITY

UCPB - COMML LOT
L.A. 1,932sqm
Brgy. Zapote, Las Pinas City
Minimum Bid Price: P 12,316,500.00

UCPB - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 280sqm, F.A. 303.12sqm
No. 20 Polasapia Road Pilar Village
Minimum Bid Price: P 2,456,500.00

UCPB - CONDO UNIT
F.A. 40.48sqm
4th Floor Wing B Lingayen Building Coastal Plaza Condo.
Minimum Bid Price: P 459,000.00

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A. 615sqm
Interior Masipag St., (CAA Ph. 3) Bo. Tungtong
Minimum Bid Price: P 313,650.00

CALOOCAN CITY

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A. 240sqm
Along Coaster St. Bridonville Subd.
Minimum Bid Price: P 365,500.00

UCPB - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 150sqm, F.A 174sqm
Adelaida St. Vista Verde North.Ph,I-F
Minimum Bid Price: P 886,000.00

MANILA CITY

UCPB - COMML LOT
L.A. 832 7sqm
No 2244 Taft Avenue, Malate
Minimum Bid Price: P 25,651,300.00

MAKATI CITY

UCPB - RSDL LOT W/ IMPRVT
L.A. 360sqm
No 4055 Yague St. Maria Dela Paz Village
Minimum Bid Price: P 5,618,500.00

UCPB - CONDO UNIT
F.A. 129.62sqm
Unit No 305 3F Ciano Plaza Condo Corp.
Minimum Bid Price: P 2,261,000.00

UCPB - COMML LOT
L.A. 478sqm
Kalayaan Comer Kawit St. Sta. Cruz Makati
Minimum Bid Price: P 10,157,500.00

UCPB - RSDL LOT W/ OLD HOUSE
L.A. 746sqm
19 Paseo De Roxas Ext. Bel - Air Village
Minimum Bid Price: P 22,257,250.00

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A. 210.8sqm
Blk. 2 Lot 1, Unit 201 Makati Prime City St. Paul St.
Minimum Bid Price: P 5,100,000.00

MANDALUYONG

UCPB - RSDL LOT W/ IMPRVT
L.A. 312sqm w/ 2-STOREY
No. 274 Sta. Lucia St. Plainview
Minimum Bid Price: P 4,377,500.00

UCPB - CONDO UNIT
F.A. 65.33sqm
Unit 507 Sierra Madre St. Ark Condo
Minimum Bid Price: P 1,266,095.40

UCPB - PENTHOUSE
F.A. 125sqm
Sierra Madre St. Ark Condo
Minimum Bid Price: P 2,548,719.90

UCPB - CONDO UNIT
F.A. 140.9sqm
Court Felicidad Wak-wak
Minimum Bid Price: P 4,350,000.00

MARIKINA

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A. 418sqm
Nangka
Minimum Bid Price: P 5,200,000.00

PASAY CITY

UCPB - PENTHOUSE
F.A. 290sqm
Unit 1502 , 15th Floor Marbella 1, No. 223 Roxas Blvd.
Minimum Bid Price. P 4,964,000.00

PARAÑAQUE CITY

UCPB - CONDO UNIT W/ PARKING
F.A. 171.2sqm
Unit 907 9th flr., Chateau de Baie Condo.
Minimum Bid Price: P 3,931,250.00

UCPB - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 417sqm, F.A 877.50sqm
Bethsaida St. Multinational Village
Minimum Bid Price P 6,865,000.00

UCPB - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 563sqm
20-A Jose Abad Santos Bayview Vill.
Minimum Bid Price. P 6,774,500.00

UCPB - RSDL LOT W/ IMPRVT
L.A. 99sqm
L. Gabriel Street
Minimum Bid Price: P 1,575,000.00

QUEZON CITY

UCPB - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 586sqm
44 Zaragosa Street, Araneta Vill.
Minimum Bid Price. P 6,961,500.00

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A. 181.5sqm
No. Agoo Street, New Haven Subd.
Minimum Bid Price. P 935,000.00

UCPB - RSDL W/ IMPRVT
L.A. 96sqm
No. 17-A Camiling Street, NIA Subd.
Minimum Bid Price: P 786,250.00

UCPB - UNFNSHD RSLD BLDG
L.A. 102sqm
364 P. Rivera Street, Brgy. Sangandaan
Minimum Bid Price: P 1,662,000.00

UCPB - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 281sqm
Bighani cor.Flores de Mayo St.
Minimum Bid Price: P 2,702,500.00

UCPB - CONDO W/ PARKING
F.A. 108.7sqm
Jade Place Condo. Visayas Avenue
Minimum Bid Price: P 2,853,000.00

UCPB - RSDL LOT W/ IMPRVT
L.A. 54sqm
Unit 18 Malachi St. Dionisio Royale
Minimum Bid Price: P 1,360,000.00

UCPB - CONDO UNIT
F.A. 62.90sqm
Adelina 2, Condominium Columbia
Minimum Bid Price: P 1,377,000.00

UCPB - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 103sqm
Moses St. Goodwill Home Ph 2. Bagabag Nov.
Minimum Bid Price: P 2,376,000.00

UCPB - RSDL LOT W/ IMPRVT
L.A. 149sqm
Along Noemi St. Goodwill Homes Ph 1, Bagabag. Nov.
Minimum Bid Price: P 1,656,000.00

UCPB - RSDL LOT W/ IMPRVT
L.A. 96sqm
Along Rd. Lot 1, Metrogreen Village, Bagabag. Nov.
Minimum Bid Price: P 1,675,000.80

UCPB - CONDO UNIT
F.A. 53sqm
Unit 209. 2nd flr. Prince Jun Condo.
Minimum Bid Price: P 1,269,000.00

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A. 3.139sqm
Green Meadows Ave. Green Meadow Subd.
Minimum Bid Price: P 45,883,000.00

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A. 3.100sqm
Along Cynthia St., Doña Carmen Subd.
Minimum Bid Price: P 1,730,000.80

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A.270sqm
Fairlane Cor. Pearl St., Fairview Park East Subd.
Minimum Bid Price: P 2,873,000.00

UCPB - HOUSE & LOT
L.A.400sqm
No. 14 Maamo St., Sikatuna Village, Diliman
Minimum Bid Price: P 4,800,000.00

UCPB - RSDL W/ IMPRVT
L.A. 66sqm
Unit 5, Trafalgar Manor, 127 Esteban Abada St., Loyola Heights
Minimum Bid Price: P 3,925,000.00

GREENHILLS SAN JUAN

UCPB - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 926sqm
31 cor. Madison & Polk St. North Greenhills
Minimum Bid Price: P 36,329,000.00

UCPB - CONDO UNIT
F.A. 180 sqm
Unit 14-B 14F, One Beverly Place Condo, Annapolis
Minimum Bid Price: P 6,400,000.00

PASIG CITY

UCPB - RSDL LOT
F.A. 224sqm
Along Bagong Anyo St., Rosario 4 Subd.. Brgy. Sta. Lucia
Minimum Bid Price: P 760,000.00

UCPB - CONDO UNIT
F.A. 14sqm
Pelaez, Blanquita
Minimum Bid Price: P 5,355,000.00

ANTIPOLO

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A. 834sqm
Selford Streeet, Town & Country Estates
Minimum Bid Price: P 2,694,500.00

UCPB - HOUSE & LOT
L.A 185sqm, F.A 164sqm
Coolidge St. Cuesta Verde Exec. Village.
Minimum Bid Price: P 1,003,000.00

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A. 437sqm
Parkridge Executive Village Bo. Mayamot
Minimum Bid Price: P 928,625.00

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A. 1,151sqm
Town & Country Estates Bo. Mayamot
Minimum Bid Price: P 3,717,900.00

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A. 1,004sqm
Brgy. Rd. Brgy. May - Iba Teresa
Minimum Bid Price P 1,470,500.00

VALENZUELA CITY

UCPB - RSDL LOT W/ IMPRVT
L.A. 284sqm
No. 700 Mango Grove Subd., Coloong 2
Minimum Bid Price: P 272,000.00

UCPB - RSDL LOT W/ IMPRVT
L.A. 193sqm
No. 14 Little Tagaytay St., Polo
Minimum Bid Price: P 654,600.00

CAINTA/ TAYTAY/ ANGONO

UCPB - RSDL LOT W/ IMPRVT
L.A. 382sqm
Noel Subd. Brgy. Dolores Taytay
Minimum Bid Price: P 798,416.00

UCPB - RSDL LOT W/ IMPRVT
L.A. 240sqm, F.A 2087sqm
Willamburg St. Richmond Subd. Angono
Minimum Bid Price: P 1,606,500.00

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A. 204sqm
Village East III Darangan Binangonan
Minimum Bid Price: P 346,800.00

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A. 524 sqm
#151 Ilang - Ilang St. Nieves Hills Subd. Angono
Minimum Bid Price: P 901,000.00

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A. 230 226sqm
Along Feeder Rd. Bo. Guitnang Bayan
Minimum Bid Price: P 9,783,500.00

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A.4,745sqm
Cainta
Minimum Bid Price: P 9,965,000.00

BULACAN

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A. 161sqm
Opel St, Villacor Vill. Bo. Langka Meycauayan
Minimum Bid Price: P 2,720,000.00

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A. 200sqm
Ayukit Street, Bo. Binang 2nd & Turo Bocaue
Minimum Bid Price: P 374,000.00

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A. 206sqm
Ayukit Subdivision Bocaue
Minimum Bid Price: P 385,220.00

UCPB - IND'S FACTORY
L.A. 11,157.7sqm F.A VARIOUS
Northwest Line of Provincial Rd, Bo. Patubig
Minimum Bid Price: P 34,866,000.00

UCPB - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 209sqm
Avocado St. Area F., Bo. Sapang Palay
Minimum Bid Price: P 360,000.00

CAVITE CITY

UCPB - CONDOTEL
L.A 182.88sqm
Southwoods Villa, Carmona
Minimum Bid Price: P 4,507,092.00

UCPB - RESORT BLDG
L.A 1,238sqm w/ POOL
Villa Ramirez Subd. Bo. Tabon Kawit
Minimum Bid Price: P 3,561,500.00

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A244sqm
Astro ready Mix, Palico. Imus
Minimum Bid Price: P 352,580.00

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A 1024sqm
Astro Ready Mix, Palico. Imus
Minimum Bid Price: P 1,198,080.00

UCPB - COMML LOT
L.A 4,999sqm
Macaria Business Center, Bo. Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price: P 38,242,360.00

UCPB - CONDOTEL/RESORT
F.A 71sqm
Vista De Loro Heights Puerto Azul.
Minimum Bid Price. P 1,589,600.00

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A 615sqm
Manila Southwoods, Cabilang Baybay, Carmona
Minimum Bid Price: P 1,827,500.00

UCPB - INDSL LOT
L.A 17.079sqm
Bo. Niog I, Bacoor
Minimum Bid Price P 5,926,600.00

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A 563sqm
Manila Southwoods. Carmona
Minimum Bid Price: P 2,392,750.00

UCPB - RSDL LOT W/ IMPRVT
L.A 169sqm
440 Daisy cor. Sampaguita Sts., San Martin De Porres. Bacoor
Minimum Bid Price. P 2,958,000.00

UCPB - CONDO UNIT
L.A 71sqm
Unit 61B. Kalaw Cluster, Vista de Loro Heights. Puerto Azul Complex
Minimum Bid Price P 1,569,500.00

BIÑAN/ SAN PEDRO & STA ROSA

UCPB - HOUSE & LOT
L.A 782sqm (2-storey)
Bo. Pooc, Sta. Rosa
Minimum Bid Price: P 1,851,978.50

TAGAYTAY CITY

UCPB - CONDO UNIT
F.A. 160.25sqm
Unit 128 Leighton Garden Condo.
Minimum Bid Price: P 2,873,000.00

UCPB - VACANT LOT
L.A. 11,572sqm
Bo. Maharlika East, Tagaytay
Minimum Bid Price: P 17,850,000.00

LAGUNA

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A. 200sqm
Along Road Lot 8, Marymount Village, Phase 3
Minimum Bid Price: P 1,834,200.00

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A. 300sqm
Magnolia cor. Ilang-ilang Street Villa Adelina III
Minimum Bid Price: P 586,500.00

UCPB - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 1,982sqm
Conrado Street, Marino Subd., San Lucas
Minimum Bid Price: P 3,591,250.00

UCPB - COMML LOT
L.A. 1,548sqm
National Hi-way Banca-banca Victoria
Minimum Bid Price: P 2,925,000.00

UCPB - COMML LOT
L.A. 35,950sqm
Maharlika Hi-way, Brgy. San Benito
Minimum Bid Price: P 39,834,514.71

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A. 271sqm
Along Rd. Lot 7 & 9 Richwood Park Village
Minimum Bid Price: P 414,630.00

UCPB - RESORT BLDG
L.A. 300sqm
Maria Makiling Villa, Pansol, Calamba
Minimum Bid Price: P 3,600,000.00

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A. 121sqm
Magnolia St. Villa Adelina III, Bulilan
Minimum Bid Price: P 467,500.00

UCPB - RSDL LOT W/ IMPRVT
L.A. 300sqm
Doña Conchita cor. Don Regino Sts, Greenland Subd.
Minimum Bid Price: P 1,000,000.00

UCPB - RSDL LOT W/ IMPRVT
L.A. 155sqm
Rosal St. W/ Vinda, Ph I San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price: P 683,400.00

UCPB - RSDL LOT W/ IMPRVT
L.A. 150sqm
Aurora Ave., Aurora Heights Subd., San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price: P 675,750.00

UCPB - RSDL LOT W/ IMPRVT
L.A. 370sqm
No. 529 Mahalina St., United San Pedro, San Antonio
Minimum Bid Price: P 2,295,000.00

BATANGAS CITY

UCPB - POULTRY & PIGGERY
L.A 37,117sqm, w/ HOUSE
National Road. Bo. Tangob,
Minimum Bid Price: P 6,631,200.00

UCPB -RSDL LOT
L.A 500sqm
Palmridge Pointe, Batangas
Minimum Bid Price: P 3,941,959.51

UCPB - HOUSE & LOT
L.A 764sqm
Lod-lod Road, Purok 6, Lipa City
Minimum Bid Price: P 434,818.22

UCPB - HOUSE & LOT
L.A 886sqm
Bo. Rd, Tlambo, Taysan
Minimum Bid Price P 2,010,000.00

UCPB - COMML LOT
L.A. 1,034sqm
Along Kalipulako St., Lipa City
Minimum Bid Price: P 27,860,000.00

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A. 1,643sqm
Brgy. Banay-banay, Lipa City
Minimum Bid Price: P 2,570,000.00

UCPB - COMML LOT W/ IMPRVT
L.A. 755sqm
Along Gen. Luna St., Cor. Athenian Rd., Lipa City
Minimum Bid Price: P 7,135,200.00

UCPB - COMML LOT W/ IMPRVT
L.A. 11,632sqm
Along National Rd., Brgy. Bugtong na Pulo, Lipa
Minimum Bid Price: P 25,398,900.00

UCPB - RESORT
L.A. 39,980sqm
Within Brgy. Balanga, Lemery
Minimum Bid Price. P 17,925,000.00

UCPB - COMML LOT
L.A. 1,363sqm
Ilustre Ave. Cor. A. Bonifacio Sts., District 3, Poblacion, Lemery
Minimum Bid Price. P 30,800,000.00

QUEZON

UCPB - INDSL LOT
L.A. 8,477sqm
Diversion Rd Bo. Isabang Mun. of Tayabas
Minimum Bid Price: P 11,385,000.00

UCPB - 3 DOOR APT
L.A. 326sqm
Villa San Lorenzo Subd. Phase 2 Iba
Minimum Bid Price: P 594,000.00

UCPB - HOUSE & LOT w/ WARE HOUSE
L.A. 75sqm
Enriquez St. Poblacion Lucena
Minimum Bid Price: P 1,705,500.00

UCPB - INDSL LOT W/ IMPRVT
L.A. 240sqm, F.A 519.15sqm
Purok Matahimik Cotta Lucena
Minimum Bid Price: P 2,025,000.00

UCPB - COMML LOT
L.A. 1,508sqm
National Road, Bo. Iyam Lucena
Minimum Bid Price: P 5,285,000.00

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A. 250sqm
San Isidro Subd. Bo. Gulang-gulang Lucena
Minimum Bid Price: P 588,491.72

UCPB - COMML BLDG
L.A. 1,138sqm
Purok Matahimik Cotta
Minimum Bid Price: P 3,691,771.09

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A. 2,533sqm
Along CPG Ave., East St., Mansasa, Tagbiliran
Minimum Bid Price: P 1,480,000.00

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A. 2,273sqm
Along Teodoric Bantol St., Dampas, Tagbiliran
Minimum Bid Price: P 1,727,000.00

BATAAN CITY

UCPB - HOUSE & LOT
L.A 300sqm, F.A. 89sqm
Halcon St. Mt View Subd, Bo. Cabcaban. Manveles,
Minimum Bid Price: P 1,476,000.00

NUEVA ECIJA

UCPB - AGRO - INDSL LOT
L.A 1,436sqm
Brgy. San Pascual, Talavera
Minimum Bid Price. P 324,000.00

TARLAC CITY

UCPB - AGRO-INDSL LOT
L.A. 40,000sqm
Bo. Sapang, Maragul
Minimum Bid Price. P 2,000,000.00

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A. 1,379sqm
Brgy. San Isidro, Tarlac
Minimum Bid Price. P 2,160,000.00

BAGUIO CITY

UCPB - COMML LOT W/ IMPRVT
L.A 250sqm
Palma St., Palma Urbano, Baguio City
Minimum Bid Price: P 3,510,000.00

ISABELA CITY

UCPB - COMML BLDG (4-Storey)
L.A 188sqm, F.A 578sqm
Brgy. Villasis, Santiago City
Minimum Bid Price: P 5,814,000.00

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A 882sqm
Provincial Road, Bo. Ipil, Echague, Isabela
Minimum Bid Price: P 630,000.00

UCPB - INDUSTRIAL LOT
L.A 12,320sqm, FA: 3,181.80sqm
Capirpinwan, Cordon, Isabela
Minimum Bid Price: P 3,060,000.00

ALBAY

UCPB - RSDL LOT W/ IMPRVT
L.A 181sqm
Velasco Subd., Daraga
Minimum Bid Price: P 735,300.00

UCPB - INDSL LOT W/ IMPRVT
L.A 2,242sqm
Along Nat'l Rd., Bonuan Boquig, Dagupan City
Minimum Bid Price: P 3,561,500.00

SORSOGON

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A 200sqm
No. 510 Magsaysay Ext. Bo. Bibingkahan
Minimum Bid Price: P 780,000.00

CAMARINES NORTE

UCPB - AGRI LOT
L.A. 89,458sqm
Bo. San Pedro Jose Panganiban
Minimum Bid Price. P 74,800.00

UCPB - AGRI LOT
L.A. 98,471sqm
Bo. Mocong Basud
Minimum Bid Price: P 130,500.00

CAMARINES SUR

UCPB - AGRI LOT
L.A. 204.152sqm
Bgy. Cagamutan, Garchitorena
Minimum Bid Price. P 6,940,000.00

UCPB - RSDL LOT W/ IMPRVT
L.A. 240sqm.
Rolivile Subd., Bo. Tambo, Pamplona
Minimum Bid Price: P 88,383.59

SHOW MONEY Php 25,000 CASH/MC PER PROPERTY • ALL PROPERTIES FOR SALE ARE ON AN "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" • PROPERTIES AND PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGES WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.

AUCTION MANAGER
THE PROPERTY FORUM

TELEPHONE NOS.: (02)534-9536 - (02)534-6954 (MON - SUN, 8:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.)

CALL CENTER: (02)633-1988 -90 (MON - SUN, 10:30 A.M. - 8:20 P.M.)

CELLPHONE NO.: (0927)550-6401

UCPB

CONDO/TWNHSE

MANILA

Bnew T'hses nr DLSU-Taft Ave LA42-48Sm 1-2Car P4.2M UP 562-3531/0917 5272166

CONDO/TWNHSE

MANILA

"MALATE MALATE CONDO" FA38m^2-1BR Units 4YTP 0% 3746731 * 09192434474

CONDO/TWNHSE

MANDALUYONG

CITYLAND SHAW 1BR FRONT SHANG P2.1M 09175213838

CONDO/TWNHSE

PARANAQUE

MULTI NAT'L 177m^2 Up&Down semifurn 3br3tb mdarm w/cr garage P3.5M nego Charo 8225479/5480Jimmy2548082

CONDO/TWNHSE

PASAY

BALAGTAS PASAY 27SQM FURNISHED W/ PARKING 6987493

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

FARM/FISHPEN/ RAWLANDS

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

FARM/FISHPEN/ RAWLANDS

FOR SALE
MALVAR BATANGAS FARM
5.9 hec. w/ fruit bearing trees: mangoes (9), lanzones (150), coconuts (800), & newly planted rambutan (500) & langka (300), chico (2), star apple (1) & assorted bananas. With hse for caretakers & steel fence surrounding property. Near the new ex-way to Bats.Enter thru Malvar exit. Rds cemented. P250/sqm (neg.). Call 809-6822 (Sat. & Sun.) or 817-8465 / 750-3240 • 09178198863.

CONDO/TWNHSE

PASIG

RENT TO OWN!
CONDO nr. Fort & Makati 2-4BR Fully Secured 15K monthly & 45K DP Anne • (0920) 236-0929

Valle Verde 2 3br 9.8M 7460237 • 09178125791

QUEZON CITY

2sty B/nw 7units 3BR3TB 2CG 4.9-5.3M 159 Sct. Limbaga Ext. 4388754 09228530530

BRAND NEW THSE NEW MLA, SAN JUAN & SCOUT AREA 0917-5271188

BRAND NEW PROJECT 4 2STOREY W/ ATTIC 637-4316

CUBAO P1.5M Flexible Terms Offsetting OK 09178348080

SCT TUAZON 2.3M 4163161

SAN JUAN

Beautiful Penthse 255m^2 + Park + R'deck 3BR 4TB Exclnt loc. GHills Avail. for Urgent Sale P13M Call 2977534

Grnhlls Grdn Sqr Condo 58sqm P2.1M 0918-9341429

CAVITE

Thse Town&Country Bacoor P1.1M (neg) Baby 0917-4070062/4761649

VARIED AREAS

MAKATI P2Mup 09177648987
FORT BONIFACIO P3M up
GREENHILLS P1Mup 4224906

LOT

KALOOCAN

420m^2 P1.2M BALUBAD ST NOVALICHES 802-2912

Rainbow Village 5 LA 216m^2 P3,473/m^2 Vic 8903461 loc 25

VILLA ANGELICA LA279m^2 FA157m^2 4br 3tb P1.7M Vic 8903461 loc 27

LAS PINAS

PHILAM LA300/394@P7.5T/m^2 AL • 874-1465/0918-937-2571

MAKATI

27 Tampingco San Lorenzo 468 Sqm P20.5 MM
29 Tampingco San Lorenzo 562 Sqm P24.5 MM
Miramar 8171589/91/94

400sqm located at 5761 FELIPE ST., BEL-AIR II, MAKATI CITY. 3rd House from Kalayaan Ave. High-rise building allowed on site
Call 0918-9418659

FORT BONI LOT515 SQM 5M RUSH NEG (0920)7463868

MAKATI VILLAGES many choices Aldrin 0918-9392979

McKinley Hills Global City P10M 634-1212

PASIG

METROVILLE SUBD LA333m^2 P4,054/m^2 Vic 8903461 loc 27

Origas Ext. 150m^2 6286238

QUEZON CITY

Exclusive Res'l Lot nr Ateneo/UP/Miriam 204m^2@P8.5th 09189235216

KATIPUNAN EXT COM'L beside future Kenny Rogers 1,100m^2 & 451m^2@P8.5th/m^2 454-5687 / 0918- 9235216

LOYOLA GRAND VILLAS choice lots w/ view, Sweden Street available 426-5650, 929-1832 • 0919-8212235

RIZAL

LOT ONLY-295sqm BLOCK9, LOT10 FILINVEST HOMES EAST PHASEV ANTIPOLO, CAINTA TEXT AT 0920-9603724

LOT

PROVINCIAL

7,756m^2 bside mall Banilad, Cebu / 09282041488

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We have all heard the phrase, "Some things are meant to last." Although a cliché, it is especially true when we want to remember the good times we've had with our families and friends.

One way to capture those special moments is with photographs. But like everything else, they don't last forever. Pictures fade when exposed to sunlight and smudge when they come into contact with water. Although we can't make images that last forever, we can at least make them last as long as possible.

That's exactly what Epson's done with their new DURABrite inks. They have a special formulation of pigment inks that protect your prints from fading and smudging. So, they last longer than ever before.

In fact, DURABrite inks are so tough, you can even submerge your prints under water for extended periods without anything happening to the ink. That's because conventional dye-based inks have particles that are easily absorbed in the fibers of plain paper, making them very soluble to water. But **DURABrite's pigment-based inks consist of insoluble pigment particles,** much like oil paint, that 'rest' on the paper's surface. This gives DURABrite inks water resistance even on plain paper. Now you can 'accidentally' spill a glass of water on those special prints without having to worry.

Apart from protecting your prints against water, there are other benefits to DURABrite inks as well. **The same advanced formulation that prevents ink particles from dispersing in water, also coats and protects the ink from the effects of the harsh outdoor sun.** No other ink can offer this kind of light resistance on plain paper. That means you never have to worry about leaving your prints exposed.

Another advantage of DURABrite inks is that they give you a clearer picture by offering you extra sharp text and graphics. That's because conventional dye-based ink acts like watercolor paint that 'bleeds' into paper fibers, producing a 'feathered' effect. **DURABrite's pigment-based inks are not easily absorbed into paper, making text printing especially sharp.**

An added bonus of DURABrite inks is that you get to save on paper, as well. **DURABrite pigment-based inks don't bleed all the way through, so you get another pristine white sheet to print over.** Although some inks can also do this on glossy or matte paper, **DURABrite inks can best achieve 'double-sided' printing on plain paper.**

DURABrite inks are the ideal choice for anyone who values the memories that great quality prints can provide. No other inks can combine superior photo-image quality with the same water and light resistance characteristics. Now your memories can stay fresh and bright longer than ever before.

Double-sided printing made possible.
EPSON
DURABrite
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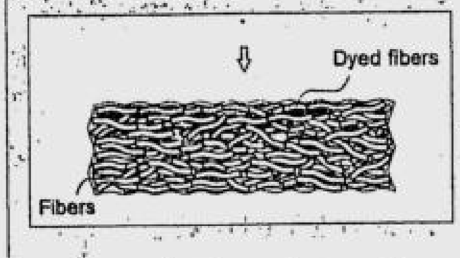
No Limits.

Advantage of DURABrite Inks

One of the best advantages of Epson DURABrite Ink is making double-sided printing truly possible. Conventional dye-based inks sink into the fibers of paper making the printed image visible on the other side. Since DURABrite Ink is pigment-based, it remains near the surface of the paper making the other side of the paper clear and printable.

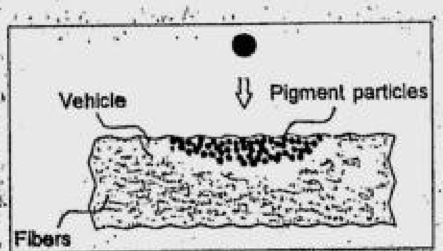
Another positive effect of pigment-based ink is clear and crisp print-outs. Since the tendency of dye-based inks is to get absorbed, sink, and spread throughout the fibers of the paper (an effect called feathering) images appear dull. DURABrite Ink has less feathering. Meaning the pigment-based ink stays put on the top layers of the paper and does not spread leading to sharper prints.

Characteristics of Epson Pigment



Dye

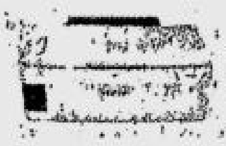
Dye inks' particles soak through from the surface to medium layer.



Pigment

The particles of pigment ink remain near the surface of the paper.

Double-sided Printing: Technology made better with DURABrite ink.



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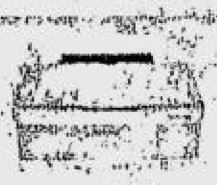

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Editor Chelo Banal-Formoso

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How knit!

LULU Tan Gan showed eight fabulous knit ensembles at the recently concluded Hong Kong Fashion Week for Fall-Winter 2005 at the Hong Kong Convention Center, which also showcased the talent of fashion designers from Hong Kong, Indonesia, Thailand and Australia.

The only designer in the show from the Philippines, Tan Gan says times have changed since she last joined the Paris Pret-a-Porter several years ago as an exporter. Buyers wanted their own labels on the clothes then, so a designer couldn't get proper credit for the designs.

"Now global retail is open to new brands as long as your design has a global appeal," notes LTG, whose Hong Kong winter resort collection included: (1) a tube tunic with back bias in awning stripes over chenille shorts as well as ribbed collared shrug, hood and leggings, perfect winter accessories in chenille lemon with taupe; (2) light aquamarine and flared double collar blouson top with light-blue stripes over velvet shorts, leg warmers and ribbed hood to match; (3) legwarmers with side pockets in taupe and light-blue stripes; and (4) tube tunic over shorts, chenille ribbed hood and oval bamboo stitch shrug.

1

2

3

4

ALL PHOTOS FROM REUTERS

Literary angst

ILLUSTRATIONS: STEPH BRAVO

By Gilda Cordero-Fernando

Part I

"Tie yourself up. Sit in a cage.
Lie on a bed of nails. You may see God,
but are you art?"

FUNNY, my writing never counted as a "job." It was always considered a sideline, a hobby, a caprice, an indulgence by my mate who had an ambivalent relationship with it. He both liked my being a writer and hated it because it was the star on top of the litany of interests that we did not share.

Early in our marriage I knew he frowned on creative writing friends visiting me or us (especially when he found out that Nick Joaquin peed on our fence). He never forbade me from receiving them but I knew better.

In the beginning, at least, he allowed himself to be dragged to a literary gathering or two. But after that, he put his executive foot down and said, "Next time, just go by yourself—I don't belong there. I don't know what you guys talk about and I don't need such punishment. It's even worse when everyone tries so hard to be nice and tells the waiter, 'Please don't forget to give Mr. Fernando a beer.' And why is it that when you are among male writers you look so enamored with the bunch of them!"

Eventually I got used to not going to those gatherings or going very seldom. Actually, it was the correct decision. Maybe it was a marriage saver.

But I knew Marcelo was really proud of me when I won a short story contest. He told his friends about it. He would escort me to the Palanca Awards dinner, or to the Free Press Awards. But he would surreptitiously leave in the middle of it only to be back in the end to applaud when my name was called.

We finally agreed on a *modus vivendi*: I would attend all his Meralco parties and all the birthdays of his relatives but he would never go to any of mine. And he promised to keep supporting me in style all my life. I kinda felt shortchanged there but then how could you win, he's a lawyer.

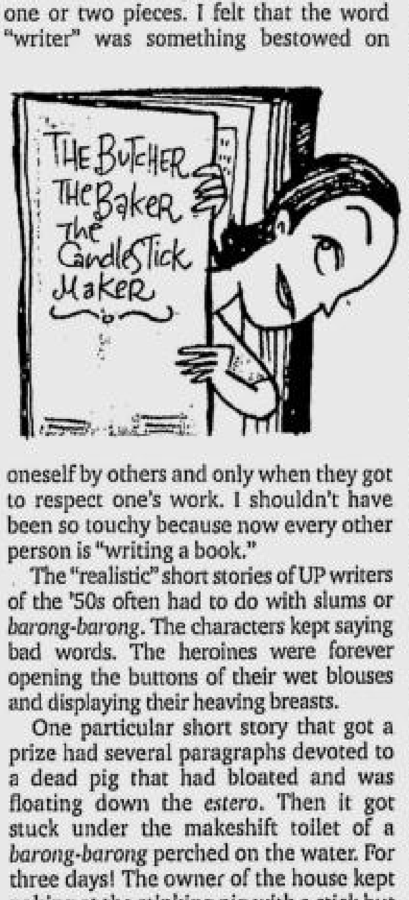
Whenever I had to fill a form for a visa or whatever (even after I had been writing for years) I would hesitate when I came to "Profession." Should I put "writer"? I would look askance at my husband and he would say, "Write 'housewife.'"

So that was what I officially was throughout my life even if I didn't prepare the meals or do the budget or run the household at all. Because he was such a good executive he controlled everything, everything, that's why things in our house ran so smoothly, and I could write, and I was free, free—or was I?

Superiority complex

In the '50s budding writers from private schools like me didn't like UP writers because they were so supercilious. They said *colegialas* would never write good stories because we "didn't have experience," we "didn't know life." They endlessly praised their own short stories and poems. Older ones could discuss their own 10-year-old short stories, sentence by sentence, as if these were written just yesterday.

Having been taught humility by the nuns, it startled me that a young UP penpusher could so brashly refer to himself as a "writer" or a "poet" after publishing one or two pieces. I felt that the word "writer" was something bestowed on oneself by others and only when they got to respect one's work. I shouldn't have been so touchy because now every other person is "writing a book."



The "realistic" short stories of UP writers of the '50s often had to do with slums or *barong-barong*. The characters kept saying bad words. The heroines were forever opening the buttons of their wet blouses and displaying their heaving breasts.

One particular short story that got a prize had several paragraphs devoted to a dead pig that had bloated and was floating down the *estero*. Then it got stuck under the makeshift toilet of a *barong-barong* perched on the water. For three days! The owner of the house kept poking at the stinking pig with a stick but couldn't pry it loose. That was supposed to be very symbolic. (It made me bilious for days.)

But maybe it was not the choice of subject matter or my finicky taste that was the matter with my stories. After writing about 12 stories, I was told by Franz Arcellana that my problem was not subject matter but that I did not like to rewrite.

I never really considered what 'my role should be as a writer.' I was just too busy trying to become one

He said I must rewrite a story not only once but three times. To make it perfect. But I said only God makes anything perfect so I settled for two rewrites. After that my stories got better. I began to win some awards even when the judge was dour Prof. Ricaredo Demetillo. He grudgingly gave one story of mine the highest rating in the judging but in a press review called it "just a tempest in a teapot." I harbored that sting in my heart for countless years. But when I got offered a column to write, I thought it was a nice title to use for my column—Tempest in a Teapot.

Them were the days when a columnist like I.P. Soliongco could say, "God, your friend's so ugly!" and to you, "Why do you write such lousy stuff?" and believe he was being so witty. And you were just too startled to answer, "So do you! Plus you're ugly, too!" Insults were the UP writers' trademark— I could never figure out from what depths of inferiority they arose.

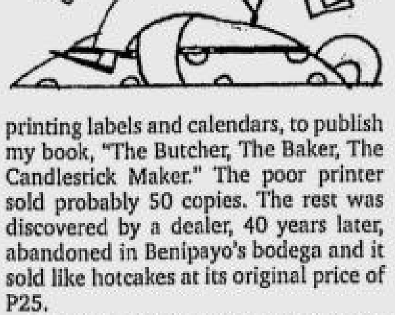
Writing mentors

The first writing class I attended was in 1952, in UE, under Alejandro R. Roces who had published a short story collection, "Of Cocks and Kites." It was a popular class that attracted many students from other schools. Mr. Roces sat on the edge of his desk, legs crossed, *de cuatro*, rubbing chalk on the dirt spots on his white shoes. He never taught us the mechanics of how to write a story. But what a magnificent storyteller he was! He related instead interesting tales he had read or invented, from the beginning to the end of the class and that inspired us to write our own (later he became National Artist).

I was always under the wing of some writer who would become National Artist. NVM Gonzalez sort of adopted me. His was everybody's ideal of what a writer's family life should be like. He lived in one of those campus cottages covered with vines. NVM gave genteel little literary *meriendas* in his home for young writers. His wife, Narita, served seafood spaghetti and his son Mike played the classical guitar. Us girls listened to Greg Brillantes (then winning all the first prizes) play a smashing Stardust on NVM's piano.

The one and only short story workshop I attended in UP was NVM's. He was a respected critic but I didn't believe him when he said, about my first story, that I should change its symbol, the glass house. The symbol referred to the broadcaster's glass booth of the hero who turned out to be a heel. NVM thought I should change it to an elevator that went up and down. *Ano ba naman*, I said.

In 1962, NVM inveigled Donato Benipayo, who had a lucrative business of printing labels and calendars, to publish my book, "The Butcher, The Baker, The Candlestick Maker." The poor printer sold probably 50 copies. The rest was discovered by a dealer, 40 years later, abandoned in Benipayo's bodega and it sold like hotcakes at its original price of P25.



In 1950 I had to take a summer class because I lacked one grade in my St. Theresa's report card. So I took up Zoology in UP as a summer student. When Francisco Arcellana began a little magazine called Collegian Little Review in the 1960s he asked me to be its guest editor. Because I had indeed studied in UP, I qualified to edit it. That was how I got to be a member of the UP Writers' Club without ever studying a full semester in UP.

Francisco Arcellana, later to become National Artist, was the students' idol (especially the girls). He was, as he confessed to his swooning female fans, "slowly dying inside" from some secret loneliness. His wife Emmy had to swat quite a few of the smitten ones.

Those were the days of Kerima Polotan Tuvera, without question the best woman fiction writer. But many fans were afraid of her because she also wrote vitriolic articles, mostly about people who were against the "new society." Like the woman who lived in a shoe, Kerima had so many children (including triplets) that she did not know what to do, and so, to unwind, she would take a shower in different friends' houses when she visited us. Kerima was nice and warm and always interesting, and we looked forward to those wet visits.

With Teodoro M. Locsin, Nick Joaquin and Filemon Tutay, Kerima made up the team that allowed the Philippines' Free Press to be, from the '50s to the '70s, the winningest magazine.

Better grammar

I never really considered what "my role should be as a writer." I was just too busy trying to become one. I had a terrible inferiority complex about my stories. The UP writers of the '60s said, of anyone like us writing, that among other insults, we sounded "western." Oh, indeed, how could I deny that I had grown up on Grimm's fairy tales and Hiawatha and Sunkist oranges and all my dolls were blonde?

I never asked myself whether the accusation was at all founded. Did I ever in my life read like a *Kano*? Or just a middle class Filipino *burgis*? My consolation was that I used better grammar than many UP writers. But I eventually got over worrying about being Filipino and realistic (which to me meant making your heroes spit and your heroines breastfeed) and settled to just being me.

The man and mind behind multiple intelligences

Dr. Howard Gardner, best-selling author of 'Multiple Intelligences,' is coming to Manila

By Grace Shangkuan Koo, Ph.D.
Contributor

IN THE FALL semester of 2003, as part of my post-doctoral studies, I attended eight courses at Harvard Graduate School of Education, two of which were with Dr. Howard Gardner on "Good Work: When Excellence and Ethics Meet" and "Cognition, Brain and Education," which he co-taught with Dr. Kurt Fischer.

It was a dream come true to meet and learn for 15 weeks— twice a week—with Dr. Gardner, one of the most prominent names in Cognitive Psychology in one of the most prominent schools in the world. The encounters were golden opportunities of intellectual exchange, clarification and discussion, planning and evaluations.

And when you meet a great person, you want to talk about him.

Howard Gardner was born in Scranton, Pennsylvania, in 1943. He was a "studious child who gained much pleasure from playing the piano; music has remained very important throughout my life."

At age 12, Gardner was a serious student of piano. He considered embarking on a career as a pianist or composer. But his teacher's advice to practice three hours a day so as to raise his level of playing to the next level made him quit.

It was no easy childhood for this son of Jewish refugees from Nazi Germany. Howard's parents escaped the Nazi Holocaust in 1938. Five years later they lost their first son, 8-year-old Eric, in a sleigh-riding accident while Ms Gardner was pregnant with Howard. Only when he was 10 did he learn the truth about this family secret. Howard Gardner shared: "My parents had had great expectations of their first son. Could I, in any way, replace or equal him?"

Moreover, Howard felt the added sense of guilt when he learned that "if my mother had not been pregnant with me, they would have killed themselves after Eric's death."

But Howard Gardner did not waver from this high expectation that his parents set out for him.

Work

Best known for his theory of Multiple Intelligences, Gardner is the Hobbs professor in Cognition and Education at Harvard Graduate School of Education. He is also co-director of Harvard Project Zero and adjunct professor of Neurology at Boston University School of Medicine. His lengthy list of awards and honorary degrees only reflects the worldwide appreciation for his lengthier list of publications. A simple click at Yahoo search produces a million results.

"Frames of Mind," "Multiple Intelligences," "Unschooled Mind," "Disciplined Mind," "Intelligence Reframed," "Leading Minds," "Creating Minds," "Good Work" are his works that I have read and introduced to my students.

His latest book, "Changing Minds: The Art and Science of Changing Our Own and Other People's Minds," describes how we make decisions and how we weigh the various factors that lead to changing our minds.

Dr. Gardner believes that the ability to change someone's mind and your own depends on these seven factors which he calls "levers." They are "reason; research (collection of data to support an argument); resonance (the ability of a person's story to strike a chord with listeners); representational redescription (which means taking the key idea and presenting it in lots of different ways; real world events; resistance (the process of understanding an audience's opposition); and resources and rewards (the financial means to make a change happen or provide incentives to those who adopt a change)."

Formidable, friendly

Dr. Gardner is both formidable and friendly. His name preceded his presence. When I was at Harvard I was surprised to know that there were quite a few students who were too scared to take his classes. He has been seen as a living legend in many countries. But he is friendly. For one, he answers e-mail and sends thank-you notes personally and immediately.

HOWARD Gardner (right) with neuropsychologist Steven Pinker

I'm grateful he welcomed me to his "Good Work" class that he had limited only to 20 students out of a large number of interested enrollees. For each class meeting he would scribble notes on the board that only he could read. They would be the agenda for that period. He listened as much as he lectured. He verbalized his thinking more than his completed thought. He was not fond of using technology in class. His classes were interactive, thought-provoking. He was helpful and interested in our ideas and research work. He had poor eyesight but excellent insight! He remembered what we shared in past meetings. He was never late or absent in his classes (even in the Cognition class when he was not the primary lecturer).

On the last day of class on a mid-December early evening, he brought wine and cheese to treat our class. I was ready to fly back to Manila the next day and I asked for his autograph on my copy of his book. In his characteristic handwriting, he signed: "For Grace: With all good wishes personally and professionally. How Gardner." That book is now many times more valuable.

Dr. Howard Gardner will speak to educators and businessmen at separate gatherings focusing on "Changing Minds" on Feb. 11 and 12 at the Manila Hotel.

E-mail the author at grace@koo.org

NIRANJAN Sundaraj, American Express VP for Business Development; Anthony Conway, Office of the President, Equitable CardNetwork Inc.; and Ian Fish, American Express country manager

Dining a la card

American Express comes up with a treat for Pinoy diners

By Anne A. Jambora

EXCLUSIVE dining privileges in a variety of culinary choices await every American Express cardholder in the country through the best-value program, American Express Selects.

Participating are 18 dining establishments covering 48 locations in Metro Manila. By choosing to pay through American Express credit cards, consumers get 15 or 20 percent off the total bill, or enjoy special treats from the restaurant—all especially tailored for AmEx members.

"These restaurants want to deal with the kind of people who carry an American Express card. They want that kind of person in their establishments so they are willing to make these generous offers," says Ian T. Fish, president of the American Express Bank-Phils.

Serving Filipinos for 88 years now, American Express, Fish says, has always come up with consumer-focused programs. "Through the years we have lived up to our promise of providing the best value products and services to card members and customers."

Launched in the United States last June, the American Express Selects is a worldwide initiative that applies to all AmEx branded cards regardless of where they were issued or where they were being used. Since the program differs from one country to country, card members can enjoy over 3,000 offers of shopping, dining and travel values, such as hotel accommodations and airline tickets, from selected merchants in 24 countries as well.

And it is not an accident that dining is especially chosen by AmEx for the Philippine program. "Everybody eats, but this is a country where food is a big deal so we thought we'd start off with food. Filipinos are quite adventurous [with food] that's why there are so many different kinds of restaurants here," Fish says.

Through a partnership with Equitable CardNetwork, AmEx approached selected restaurants in the metropolis that were willing to work with a sensible discount appropriate for AmEx card members.

"A lot of people have come to us and said they wanted their restaurants included, but the list is selected," Fish says. "But we don't want to handle only one particular type of establishment that's why there's a variety—American, Korean, Greek cuisines." There are also Chinese, German, bars—an ice cream bar and, well, the regular bars—Filipino, Spanish and more on the list.

"Excellence is at the core of who we are and what we do. American Express Selects is just one of many privileges we bring to Philippine card members, as we will continue to set new standards in customer exclusivity and unique lifestyle experiences," Fish says.

Participating merchants are: Anything Goes at Burgoo (15-percent discount); California Pizza Kitchen (20 percent); Cabalen (one free buffet meal for every five diners); El Cuento (15 percent); Kaya Express and Kaya Restaurant (15 percent); La Dulcinea (one free main dish for every two main dishes); Magnum (15 percent); Mati (15 percent); Melo's (15 percent); Nuvo (15 percent); Oody's Bar and Restaurant (15 percent), Pazzo (15 percent); Schwarzwalder (15 percent, dinner only); The Chinese Monk (15 percent); The Seafood Club (one free buffet meal for every five diners); Tequila Joe's (20 percent); and Venezia Bar (15 percent).

E-mail the author at ajambora@inquirer.com.ph

Electronic pleasures on exhibit

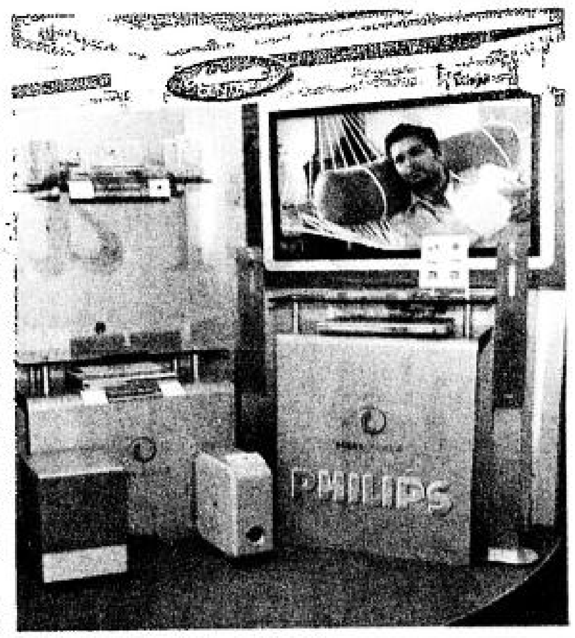
AUTOMATIC Centre presents Digital Pleasures at the new Gateway Mall at the Araneta Center.

As Automatic Centre president Samie Lim explains, "the Digital Pleasures exhibit promises shoppers and retailers alike a firsthand experience of the many exciting products on display, while enjoying the comfort and luxury of the Gateway Mall."

Inspired by the success of the recently held Plasma Pleasures exhibit at the Ayala Mall, Glorietta and Alabang Town Center, the exhibit seeks to build on the image that Jorge Araneta envisioned for the construction of the Gateway Mall: as a "rebirth of Araneta Center as the premier shopping destination in the Metropolis." The mall is now accessible from various points of the metropolis through the LRT2 and MRT3 lines.

The Digital Pleasures exhibit offers discerning consumers a fun experience with its array of the latest flat panel TVs, high-definition projection TVs, high-resolution flat-screen TVs and DVD recorders. The leading global brands in consumer electronics are represented, such as Audiovox, Hitachi, JVC, Kolin-Syntax, LG, Panasonic, Philips, Pioneer, Samsung, Sharp, Sony and Toshiba.

The exhibit runs until Jan. 31 at the Gateway Mall's activity area.



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Queens of the Fairways

SMART Congratulates Jennifer Rosales and Jayvie Agojo

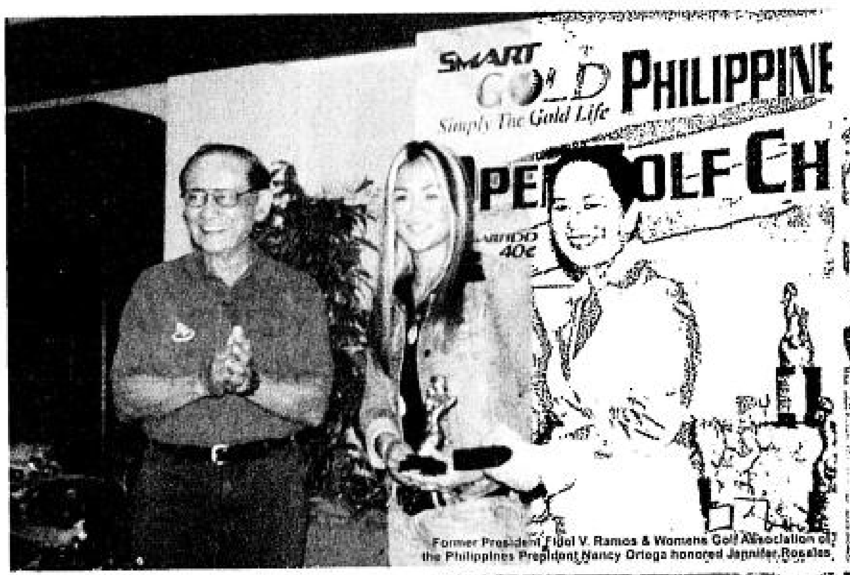
A new champion was crowned at the recently concluded 'SMART Gold Philippine Ladies Amateur Open at the Manila Golf Club, and she couldn't be any happier. Jayvie Agojo, all of 18 years young and dubbed as the next Pinoy female golfing superstar, shot a two-under-par 69 to beat Korea's Ji Yeon-woo by one stroke. Despite hitting only four greens on the back nine, Agojo outlasted Ji and defending champion Frances Bondad to rule the roost.

The ceremonial tee featured a five-time former winner of this event, as well as the Philippine Sportswriters Association (PSA) Sportswoman of the Year, Jennifer Rosales. SMART Gold joined the Women's Golf Association of the Philippines and the First Gentleman Foundation in supporting this annual tournament. Winning here from 1994-1998, nobody can deny that this event holds a special place in the life of the woman many have dubbed "J-Ro". Jenny gained international attention for winning her first LPGA title, the Chick-Fil-A Charity Championships in May of 2004. Since then, the 5'5" 26-year old with the colorful attire has served as an inspiration for young, up and coming Pinoy golfers.

This is indeed the case for Jayvie, a pre-tournament favorite with defending champion Bondad. All set to take up a college scholarship at Pepperdine University, Jayvie (like Jenny) was awarded the Amateur Golfer of the Year award by the PSA. She proved herself up to the hype and the task at hand by outlasting Ji and Bondad despite being tied from the 11th hole of the final day. Despite trailing Carmelette Villaroman at the start of the final day, Jayvie showed she had ice in her veins as she rallied and eventually claimed the title.

With former Philippine President Fidel V. Ramos joining the cheering gallery at the Manila Golf Club, Jayvie and company delivered a performance to remember. With J-Ro and Dorothy Delasin still making waves in the LPGA Tour, and with Jayvie and Frances Bondad continuing to develop, this certainly bodes well for the future of Philippine women's golf. SMART Gold joins the thousands of other golf enthusiasts in celebrating Jayvie's victory, and promising more support for the game in the future.

Photos by: Arnie Nucum & Nikko Tapan



Former President Fidel V. Ramos & Womens Golf Association of the Philippines President Nancy Ortega honored Jennifer Rosales

PSA Sportswoman of the Year Jennifer Rosales returned to the event which she won five straight times

"J-Ro" is all smiles, recalling how she won this event for five straight years

Defending Champion Frances Bondad wound up in third place

Jayvie came from behind to secure the win

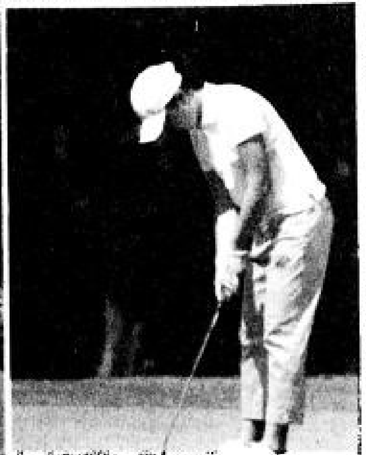
Gold Philippine Ladies Amateur Open Champion Jayvie Agojo displays her trophy

SMART
GOLD
Simply
SMART
GOLD

A bright future lies ahead for Philippine golf thanks to Jayvie

Class A Champion Geleen Handog, Overall Champion Jayvie Agojo & Class B Winner Beverly Mendoza

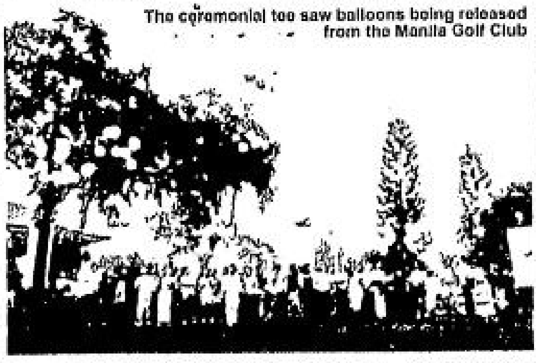
Fourth Placer Carmelette Villaroman couldn't sustain her lead



South Korea's Ji Yeon-woo was 1st Runner-up

SMART
PHILIPPINE LADIES AMATEUR
OPEN GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP

The ceremonial tee saw balloons being released from the Manila Golf Club



PHILIPPINE LADIES AMATEUR
OPEN GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP

Philippine Olympic Committee Chairman Peping Cojuangco during the awarding ceremonies

2005 Champ Jayvie Agojo poses with 2004 winner Frances Bondad

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Sweet Dreams Showcase
Week 5
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Week 6
February 25-March 3, 2005
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z Jr. Ave. Bagumbayan, Q.C. • **ARANETA** - Gen. Aguinaldo, Gen. Mc Arthur Ave., Araneta Center, Q.C.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3543 Series of 2004

Gadgets and gizmos aplenty

THE ABENSON Avant store recently opened at the second level of Greenbelt 4.

The store introduces a whole new experience to a gadget and appliance store, encapsulated in two words: electronic lifestyle. Avant is the first to deliver an interactive experience to customers, with a store design that encourages everyone to tinker and test-drive products that are being displayed.

"The store is very interactive so the customers can try out the things that they see here. At the Home Theater Area, we have a lot of comfortable couches that are very inviting. Customers can even sit down while watching a movie. There's also an Eiffel Tower photowall at the ground floor where people can have their pictures taken using our latest cameras," says Walter Lim, business and development manager for Abenson Avant.

The store got its inspiration from Tokyo and Paris, and tailor-fitted it to the local market. The neat, fashionable interiors were done by designer Maja Olivares.

Avant's two-story area features such state-of-the-art electronic wonders as the TV Refrigerator, the vanity ref, the Ferrari-inspired laptop and digicam, the anti-microbial washing machine, the country's largest plasma TV and the smallest (palm-sized) camera.

Abenson Avant is located at 2/F, Greenbelt 4, Makati City.

WEGA
SONY
WEGA

WALTER Lim shows Philippine Tatler editor Anton San Diego the latest technology from Sony—a Wega Engine Plasma Home Theater System.

Shop and get a chance to win P1 million

ROBINSONS Supermarket, Robinsons Supercenter and Big R Supercenter offer shoppers a chance to make their grandest dream come true with Key to a Million, the stores' biggest, most exciting raffle promo to date.

Key to A Million gives one very lucky shopper an opportunity to win a prize of a lifetime—cash, gift certificates and Nestle merchandise worth P1 million.

Shoppers can join the promo with every P300 single receipt purchase from Robinsons Supermarket, Big R Supercenter or Robinsons Supercenter, which is equivalent to one raffle coupon. Bonus raffle coupons will be given for purchases of selected sponsors' products or whenever the Robinsons Store Card is used.

Promo is good until the closing hours of Feb. 15.

Thirty winners will be drawn to participate in the Treasure Hunt Game for a chance to win P1 million worth of prizes. The game will be held at the Robinsons Galleria Fountain Area on March 4.

During the game, all 30 pre-drawn names will be requested to draw one key each from a fish bowl. Each key corresponds to a treasure chest, one of which will contain the P1-million worth of cash and other prizes.

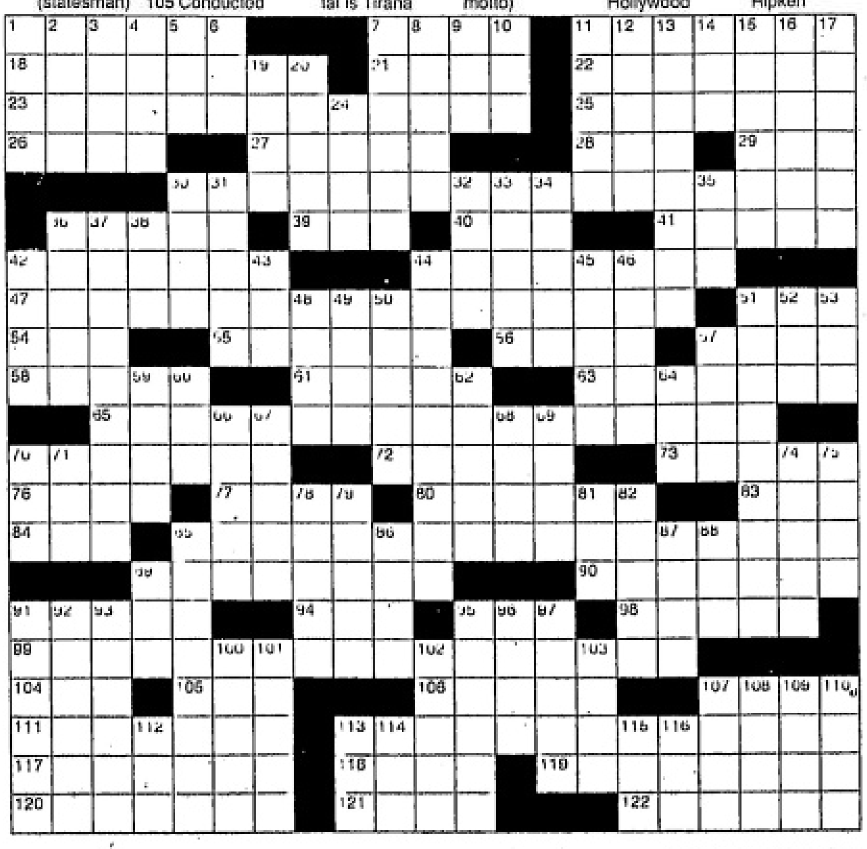
Each of the 29 other contestants will automatically take home P20,000 worth of prizes.

SUNDAY CROSSWORD

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo

ACROSS
1 Homes
7 Diver Louganis
11 Some hotels
18 Shortish piano piece
21 Little-seen
22 City WSW of Fort Worth
23 Start of a riddle
25 Break up
26 Columnist Bombeck
27 — better than (outdo)
28 Total
29 Pekoe, e.g.
30 Riddle, part 2
36 Tuscany town
39 Kit — (candy bar)
40 Suffix with glob
41 Path in a stadium
42 Entice
44 Illegal pitch
47 Riddle, part 3
51 Taxi alternative
54 Columnist Landers
55 Disney CEO Michael
56 "Homme d'—" (statesman)
57 Weill or Russell
58 Lubricate anew
61 Letter stroke
63 Argue noisily
65 Riddle, part 4
70 Expects eagerly
72 "Here's to your health!"
73 Can't live without
76 Greek Cupid
77 Eyes, in verse
80 Actor Borgnine
83 Bundled unit, in some product names
84 Poet Hughes
85 End of the riddle
89 Face-making villains
90 Rises in business profits, e.g.
91 Neighbor of Taurus
94 Blasting stuff
95 Towing org.
98 Golf taps
99 Start of the riddle's answer
104 Juice drink
105 Conducted
106 Mrs. Gorbachev
107 Swing about
111 Close friend
113 End of the riddle's answer
117 Like leftovers
118 Tiny bit
119 Enjoyable
120 Return addressees
121 Honk
122 Contract division

DOWN
1 Life — know it
2 Physicist Niels
3 Word: Suffix
4 Baby's first word, often
5 DDE's WWII command
6 Sis or bro
7 Direct a smile toward
8 One in a relay
9 Time stretch
10 Hair raiser?
11 Speeder's nemesis
12 Tolerate
13 Distributed cards wrongly
14 Eur. country whose capital is Tirana
15 Demographical statistic
16 Heat to remove stress
17 Calm
19 Close at hand
20 "I could write —!"
24 Entertainer Falana
30 Go nuts
31 Secret supply
32 Apartment manager, slangily
33 "— for the Tsar" (Glinka opera)
34 Understand
35 "Don't Stop — You Get Enough"
36 Hail unit
37 "This simply won't work"
38 Byron's "before"
42 Open a crack
43 Lead-in for night or light
44 They make things get smaller
45 Melee
46 "Ad — per aspera" (Kansas motto)
48 D.A.'s aide, e.g.
49 Snick-or- — (large knife)
50 Sea birds
51 Statement of programming errors
52 It often starts with "http"
53 Revered Fr. woman
57 Capped body part
59 Really bothers
60 Arles article
62 Sea arm bordered by steep cliffs
64 Writer Rand
66 Make amends
67 Yankees manager Joe
68 Rational
69 Argued a case
70 Give the go-ahead
71 Mine find
74 Mends, as socks
75 "The — the limit!"
78 Sleeping space
79 Venue
81 Moo — pork
82 Hedren of Hollywood
85 Put fiberfill in, e.g
86 Table scraps
87 Bowl over
88 "For shame!"
89 Ionian, e.g.
91 Adding device
92 Renovated
93 Quaint delivery guys
95 Where the ark debarked
96 Athletic shoe brand
97 Man with morals
100 Passover meal
101 Idyllic places
102 Poetic Muse
103 Willy Wonka creator Roald
107 Baseball's "Slammin' Sammy"
108 Island feast
109 Footed vases
110 Suffix with Smurf
112 "Neato!", '90s-style
113 Deep hole
114 "Yoo- —!"
115 Jiffy
116 Slugger Ripken



answer on page F2

Charity ball raises funds for Quezon

THE QUEZONIANS 1923 Inc. held its 81st anniversary charity ball at the Westin Philippine Plaza.

Beneficiaries included victims of recent typhoons in Quezon.

This year's annual ball also marked the formal handover of the new Livelihood and Learning Center in Brgy. Concepcion in Sariaya.

Emilio R. Pilar, Philippine National Bank's group head for Southern Luzon, and Carrie A. Bautista, wife of the president of Mirant Philippines, are joint club presidents for 2004. It was through their efforts that construction of the building was undertaken with funding from the Mirant Philippines Foundation on a 5,000 sq m lot donated by past club president Roger and wife Gladys Cabuñag.

This year's ball drew 800 guests including foreign dignitaries. It was dedicated to preserving Quezonian tradition dating back to the 20s. Main features included the *rigodon de honor* and the coronation of the muse.

Women who joined the *rigodon de honor* wore elegant ternos while the men were in traditional white dinner jackets. Participants included Secretary Roberto Pagdanganan and wife Susan, Jaime Laya and Thelma Gana, Gen. Virtus Gil and wife Lita, Dr. Pat Andaman and Undersecretary Agnes Devanadera, and Tony Palad and Myrna Borromeo.

This year's muse was Mildred Anne "April" Javierto Pilar, 22, a Masters of Science in Management degree holder from the University of Asia and the Pacific. She was escorted by Joey Guanzon Tanyag, vice president for purchasing of Guanzon Lime Development Co.

The right way to discipline your child

DISCIPLINING a child is one of the toughest acts parents must do.

It is made more difficult by the fact that discipline requires patience and time. Most parents today work and are usually tired and not so patient when they come home.

Educator and CMMA awardee Marita Villafuerte writes about "Corners and Rewards: How Efficient is Your Discipline Method?" in the current issue of Baby Magazine.

Villafuerte says rewards may not always be the best way to get a child to behave. She adds that sometimes parents set very high standards.

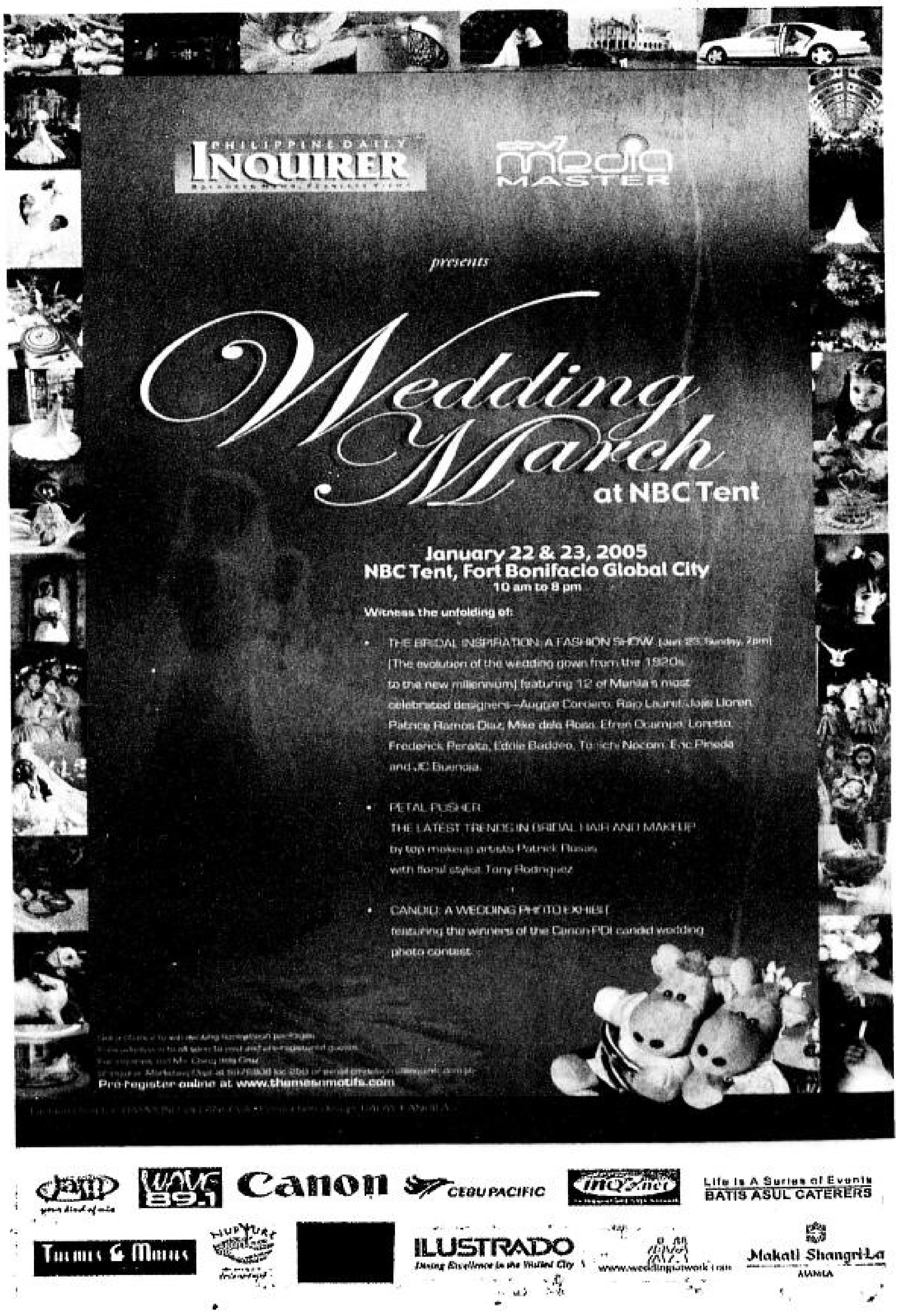
Another educator, Jenny V. Tapales, who deals with children with learning disabilities, give pointers on how to make a child speak early in "Time to Talk." The techniques are very practical and easy to implement.

Dr. Rebecca Singson explains why some women cannot get pregnant. She cites factors that can cause infertility and suggests that pregnancy should not be put off until a very late age.

Dr. Donna Pangilinan-Simpao, who writes the column Caregivers, says *yayas* have to see them playing with their children. "Both quantity and quality of time are essential," she says.

Featured father in the issue is former national athlete David Bunevacz, while featured mother is Katkat de Castro, daughter of vice president Noli de Castro.

Baby Magazine is available at all National Bookstores, SM Baby Company, Baby & Co and baby specialty shops. Call 7283655 to 56.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- PETAL PUSHER THE LATEST TRENDS IN BRIDAL HAIR AND MAKEUP by top makeup artists Patrick Rosas with floral stylist Tony Rodriquez
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VALDES family

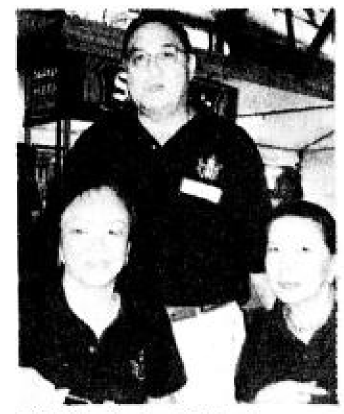
PRIETO family

DR. Paolo Lorenzo and Pilar Prieto Lorenzo

TALENTED singer Mia Tengco with Bryan Prieto

BONET Ugarte and Jingy Tuason

SEA Princess with daughter Annika



CLOSE relatives Boling Reyes, Conkoy and Doodie Tuason

Family—for life!

TESSA!

Tessa Prieto-Valdes

Every four or five years, the descendants of Teresa de la Paz—members of the Tuason-Legarda-Prieto-Valdes families—hold a grand reunion. This year was our fifth

PICKING a name for one's baby can be a tedious process. So many variables can affect the decision. Unless one hails from royal blood, there are normally only two first names to combine. One must take great care to ensure both these names sound good with the surname.

For instance, it's not a good idea for parents to make puns using their kids' names. Mr. and Mrs. Dy should avoid calling their boy, John Kenneth, for example, unless they want to make his life hell throughout his grade school and high school years.

It can get extremely complicated when both extended families want to name the child after every great-grand relative whose names are only found in the Old Testament.

Some of these age-old names should be retired, unless one wants to copy Julia Roberts, who named her baby boy Phinnaeus Walter. (Perhaps she was not yet fully off the anesthesia when she decided on that name.)

Then, there is also the small detail about the combination of the initials. What happens when the Enriquez boy grows up to be the boss but his first names are Tyrone Alexander? Won't the secretaries all be snickering when TAE orders a cup of coffee?

So what's in a name? I say, much more than one can imagine. My full name is Maria Theresa Isabel Rufino Prieto Valdes. Growing up, I was always called Tessa. I recently realized that there are over a dozen Maria Theresa/Teresa relatives, and that is just from my extensive family tree.

Namesakes

My namesakes include Maria Teresa "Tuting" Prieto de Roces and Maria Teresa "Teresa" Prieto, the pretty daughter of Mike Prieto and Nini Licaros who coincidentally also had a boyfriend named Dennis around the time I was getting married to my Dennis.

Thank God for nicknames—although there are three other Tessas in the clan, which amount to quite a number of mix-ups!

The lineage of the extended Tuason-Legarda-Prieto-Valdes clan traces back to a grand matriarch, Doña Teresa de la Paz de los Santos, affectionately called "Lola Teresa." She was quite a woman.

Born in the middle of the 19th century, Doña Teresa lived an exciting and prolific life, giving birth to a total of 10 children from two husbands. Her first husband was Don Jose Severo Tuason, an ancestor of First Gentleman Mike Tuason Arroyo, and she had seven children with him over their 11 years of marriage.

At Don Jose's premature death at 41, Doña Teresa was only 32. A year later, she married Don Benito Cosme Legarda, this time 12 years her junior! Naturally they proceeded to have children, and from two of these three offsprings came the Prieto and Valdes branches of the family.

At one point, the Legardas, Prietos and Valdeses all lived under one roof—the large ancestral home called "La Case Grande" at 964 R. Hidalgo St.

To those of you wondering whether Dennis is a first cousin of mine, the answer is no. His branch of Valdes hails from Bacolor, Pampanga, where the original family name was De Jesus, related to Andres Bonifacio's wife Gregoria. When Bonifacio was incarcerated, some members of the family changed their names to Valdes to avoid persecution. But that, as they say, is another story for another column.

Fifth reunion

Every four or five years, the descendants of Teresa de la Paz hold a grand reunion for the growing number of relatives, all from the four main families. The fifth reunion was held last Jan. 9 at the Ateneo High School gym with over a thousand attendees, including the First Couple, Mike and Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo.

CLOSET queens. Jaime Legarda, Jingy Tuason, Eddie Legarda and Edu Llora

OLDEST descendants. Chiching Tuason, Charito Legarda, Bobot and Neling Nieto, Caruso Prieto and Marcos Roces

HEIGHT-related President GMA and First daughter Luli Arroyo with the Sea Princess

Coming from all parts of the globe, the brood enjoyed a whole day of festivities. Interestingly, the food for the day was served from family-owned outlets like Shakeys, Tia Maria, Dunkin' Donuts, Pazzo Gelato, Gourmet Palate, Via Mare and La Tasca.

Being in my eating-for-two state, I just went from booth to booth sampling the dishes, minus the Margaritas from Tia Maria, of course.

The celebration started off with Sunday Mass, followed by the unavoidable photo sessions—we are, after all, Filipinos!—of the four main families arranged by decade, beginning with those born in the 1930s and ending with the babes born in the new millennium. Golfer/photographer Jojo Guingona of the Tuason clan captured serious and fun shots of everyone.

Going by the color-coded T-shirts, the Tuason side has by far the most representatives per decade. The Prietos though are inching up in number, and I am seriously involved in that task with my scheduled delivery in May. Of course, to catch up with the Tuasons much faster, I should have four more children after I deliver this one.

Highlights

The highlight of the day was the entertaining talent program of the non-showbiz personalities hosted by Butch Tuason and Katrina Legarda. The only real celebrity in our clan is singer Louie Heredia. But then we could have had another if we had invited our other popular "relative"—Francine Prieto!

An extensive dance number by the ladies of the four families was also performed, impressively swinging from Cha-cha to Samba. But youth cannot be denied their say: the Gen X kids stole the show with their break-dancing and suave moves.

The Prieto part of the show was a Madonna dance number by me in all my pregnant glory, followed by that Village People anthem, "YMCA," by four brave Prietos, including in-laws like Dennis and Philip Romualdez.

The finale was a hilarious beauty pageant show of six of the most mature, masculine men, all with waistlines measuring 36" and up. All were dressed in drag, complete with colored wigs and accessories, mainly from my closet. The brave ones paraded through the gym before going on stage for that pageant requisite, the Q&A.

Their vintage outfits had all been worn by some great-grand aunt and still had that "right-out-of-the-baul" smell to authenticate that. I have indeed inherited my dad's sense of humor, because he was the most comical and amusing of the six, and won the title of Ms Anobayan!

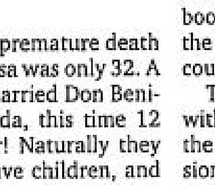
After the show, there were fun games and a children's show to keep the festivities going until late afternoon. Having a family is truly a comforting thing. Just ask the president. When we finally trundled off around 5 p.m., she and FG Mike were still enjoying the party!

E-mail me at seaprincess@inquirer.com.ph.

THOSE born 1940s and up, with First Gentleman Mike Arroyo

Fed up with her husband's betrayal

EMILY'S POST



Emily A. Marcelo

DEAR Emily,

My husband and I are both freelance professionals and have been married for 19 years. I've had better-paying jobs than he. He prefers to be with his friends than work, and what's so hurtful is his fondness for young girls.

On our 12th year, we started to drift apart. I decided to concentrate on my work and opened an office in another house where I also lived. I'd go home to him 10 times a year. Later, it became five times a year, mainly for Christmas and New Year.

In 2002, after 15 years of marriage, I found out he was having an affair with their office secretary. The girl left for the US in December 2003, but my husband's affair with her went on. He is still in contact with her. They text each other everyday, although he denies this affair to our kids. Now he is planning to leave for the US to look for a job. He plans to stay there indefinitely.

I, too, am always out of the country.

What do I do? I'm already fed up with his betrayal and lies. I have remained faithful and loyal all these years for the sake of my children.

BROKENHEARTED WIFE

Have you ever thought that your husband is unfaithful because he is unable to find a better-paying job than you? Do you know how emasculating that is to vulnerable husbands?

Some men are really babies at heart and frail to the core, no matter how virile and macho they seem. They'd want approval and adulation in one form or another to keep alive their vision of themselves in their minds.

It was a survival mechanism for your husband to hook up with an office secretary because she probably looks up to him and thinks he is a god-incarnate. That, plus your physical absence from your home. No marriage will survive long separations, more so a marriage as troubled as yours.

You are lucky to be born in this age where you can choose to be a martyr or not. From the looks of it, your marriage is beyond redemption—momentarily at least. Let him go and find himself again. Don't allow him and his girlfriend to miss each other by restricting their communication lines.

Don't give him the chance to feel lovelorn. If you prevent their rendezvous in the US, your marriage may go from bad to rotten that you might as well kiss it goodbye. Give him as much freedom as he wants. Let the secretary find out for herself the kind of person he really is—the kind of husband you knew him to be. See how she takes that!

If he comes back on his own—repentant and a changed man—you would have won the battle. Can you swallow that prospect?

I'm currently working in a company that pays me well. But I am not content. I'd like to have a better salary to help my family. I am still young and I want a better job before I get married. I always think that what others can do, I can do better.

Should I wait for destiny to open up a job for me? Do I have to look for work, which oftentimes is so frustrating and hurtful because I'm told I am not qualified for it? I'm so worried because I don't know what's going to happen to me in the future. Sometimes I get so bored that I don't appreciate what I have. I always envy people who have more than I have. What will I do?

DOUBTFUL

Good-paying jobs don't just fall out of the sky. It takes hard work to achieve that. You really must be qualified and right for a good-paying job.

Improve your grammar, first and foremost. You cannot apply for a terrifically great job if you can't speak or write well to begin with. Your interviewer will cringe at the sound and sight of badly constructed written and spoken sentences, and your chances will definitely fly out the window—no questions asked.

What's making you so restless anyway? Besides wanting to earn more money, what's making you so unhappy? What is it about your co-workers that you are envious of?

Envy is a symptom of unhappiness. Do you envy those who speak and talk well? Does it make you angry that these people have such confidence in themselves? They probably got in first, worked longer and harder hours than you, so what's the problem?

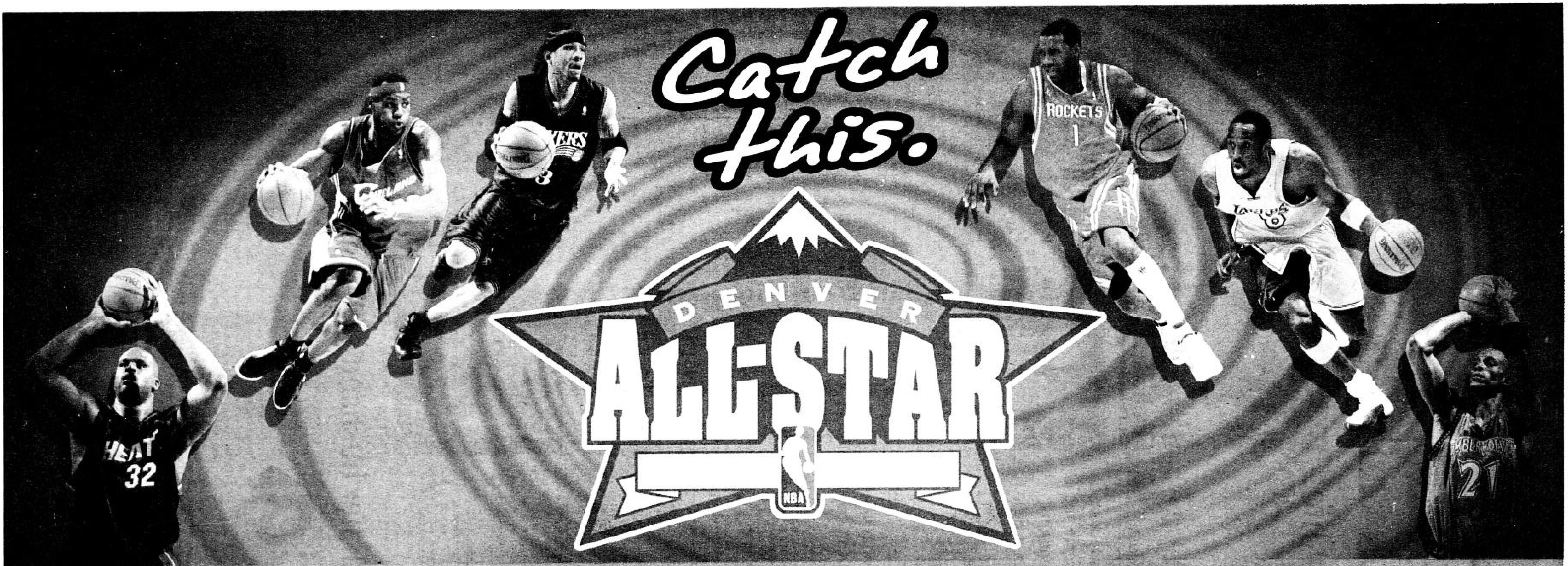
Remember, there will always be people in higher positions than you. What about those in lowlier jobs—do you think they're envious of you, too?

You cannot be content and happy if you keep on looking over the shoulders of other people and comparing them with you. Why not shift your gaze at the really unfortunate—the unemployables, the disabled, the sick? There's nothing like a jolt of reality for the many who are constantly discontented.

Remember the saying, "I cried to the Lord I didn't have shoes, till I saw a man who didn't have feet?" That might make you go down on your knees and thank the heavens for all the blessings you have but refuse to acknowledge.

When you decide to leave this job you're unhappy in, better have a safety net to fall into.

Send your e-mail to emarcelo@inquirer.com.ph, Subject: Lifestyle, or send your letters to Inquirer. Listen to Ms Marcelo co-host the program "Kalikasan Vigilante," Monday to Friday from 7:15-8:30 p.m. on dwBR 104.3 FM



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[illegible]

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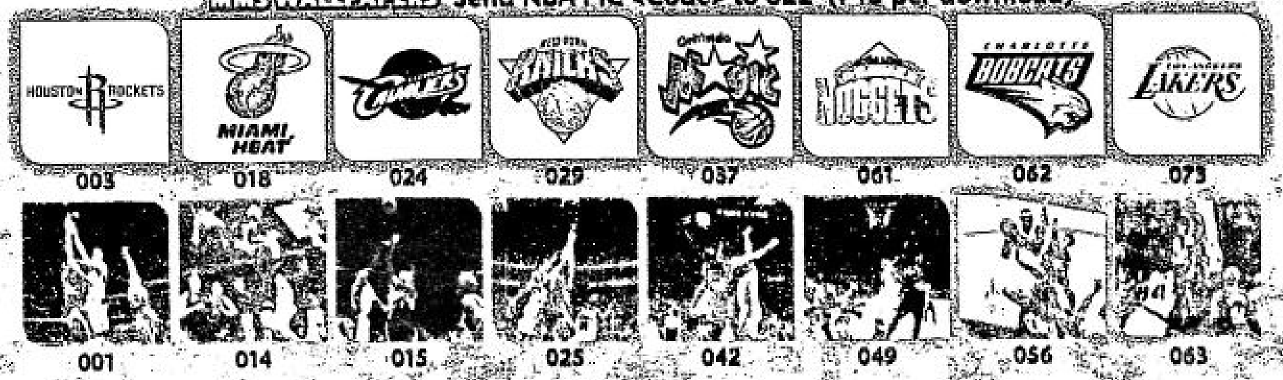

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Haribon promotes nature conservation through sports

SEEING GREEN

Doris Gaskell Nuyda

HARIBON, the foundation that works for the conservation of the country's wildlife, birds most of all, turns to sports to call attention to its causes.

It was particularly busy in this regard last year. In April 2004, Haribon celebrated Earth Day by holding the 1st Metro Manila Bird Kite Festival in cooperation with the Kite Association of the Philippines.

It was a thrilling event because beautiful bird kites were let loose in the wind in a maze of colors. On June 12, Independence Day, the Alabang Jaycees followed suit, holding its own "Saranggola ng Pagasa," proceeds of which were donated to Haribon's conservation projects.

Last December, Haribon reprised the 2003 1st Wild Manila! Adventure Race. This time around, 18 teams of runners and bikers raced through four cities to get to 11 of the metropolis' greenest spots, which made the race, in effect, an out-of-the-ordinary ecotour.

'Wild adventure 2'

In the 2nd "wild adventure" race, starting point was the Quezon City Memorial Circle. From there, participants raced to the University of the Philippines, La Mesa Watershed, Ateneo de Manila University campus, and the nature park at the Protected Area & Wildlife Bureau compound, all in Quezon City.

In Marikina, participants headed for the Riverbanks area and in Manila, they took in the Arroceros Park, the Orchidarium at Rizal Park, and the Cultural Center of the Philippines. Their destination in Makati was the Makati Park through the Libingan ng mga Bayani.

As the race coincided with the Miss Earth Philippines pageant, beautiful title holders were around to add fillip to the occasion. And, for environmental relevance, racers were given little tests on Philippine biodiversity, like identifying certain endemic water birds, or giving the scientific names of trees found at a site.

Badminton cup

In October, Haribon organized still another sports fest, this time the 1st Haribon Badminton Cup. Co-sponsored by Legend International Resorts and other donors, the event opened at the Olympic Badminton Club on E. Rodriguez Ave., Libis, QC. Its second leg was held at Subic's Remy Field Multipurpose Center where celebrities like Paolo Bediones, Patrick dela Rosa, Tonton Gutierrez, Glydel Mercado, Daisy Reyes and other stars of film and television, were pitted against each other.

Like the Wild Manila! races and Bird Kite festival, the badminton tournaments were meant to raise awareness of the importance of biodiversity conservation.

There is no better way to call attention to this than to hold sports events that display competitive skills and at the same time show off the beauty and bounty of nature that make such events possible. From the outcome of these first events, Haribon officials like executive director Anabelle Plantilla, are encouraged to duplicate them in the years to come.

To their motto "Protecting Nature, Preserving Life," they may as well add "While Having Fun!"

E-mail the author at dorisnuyda@yahoo.com

Thorns don't a cactus make

By Serapion S. Metilla
Contributor

GREEN TIPS

MANY people, especially those who are not into gardening, are still ignorant about cacti. They think any plant that is hardy and can tolerate less water for days or weeks, is a cactus.

But it is safer to call plants that seem to be hardy, especially if they have thorns and don't need plenty of water, as succulent.

What are succulents? These are plants that can store moisture in their bodies and can thrive in a very dry environment. If you water them generously they will easily rot.

Cacti are succulents, but not all succulents are cacti. A Euphorbia species from the arid region of Africa, for instance, probably because of its spiny appearance and its tolerance of dryness for long periods, is often mistaken for a cactus.

Distinguishing traits

Here are some characteristics that distinguish members of the Cactaceae family:

1) They are perennials, meaning they live year after year.

2) They are hardy and grow better with less watering.

3) Areoles or spine cushions are always present. Some cacti may not have spines but usually the cushions have fine hair called glochids with barbs at the end or some have both glochids and spines.

4) The flower is always attached to the top of the ovary, which develops into a one-celled fruit or berry that encloses the seeds.

5) They belong to the dicotyledons, meaning the seed has two cotyledons which appear as seed leaves later when a baby plant starts to develop.

6) Cacti have no true milky sap as in Euphorbias.

7) Cacti are natives only to the Americas, most of them in tropical areas.

Succulent types from different families are: Lithops and many others from the Aizoaceae; Agaves from the Amarylidaceae; Huernias and Stapelias from the Asclepiadaceae; Dykias and Tillandsias from the Bromeliaceae; Senecios from the Compositae; Crassulas and all other species from the Crassulaceae; Euphorbias, except the Poinsettias, from the Euphorbiaceae; the Aloes, Gasterias and Sansevierias from the Liliaceae and the Cissus jutae from the Vitaceae family.

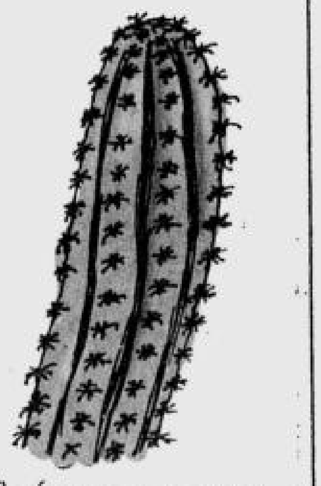
Except for he Agaves, Dykias and most Euphorbias, these succulents have no spines.

Two cacti types

Cacti are classified into two general types—globular and columnar. Globular types are rounded while the columnar grow tall or are elongated. Globular types can be propagated asexually by separating the offsets while the columnar can be grown from stem cuttings.

All cacti bear flowers and, if cultured in the right place and right environment, bear fruits and develop seeds.

Succulent plants can be easily propagated by separating an offset or cutting a stem. This should be done during the dry months. Have the cut parts dried first for about three to five days before planting.



Columnar cactus cereus sp.

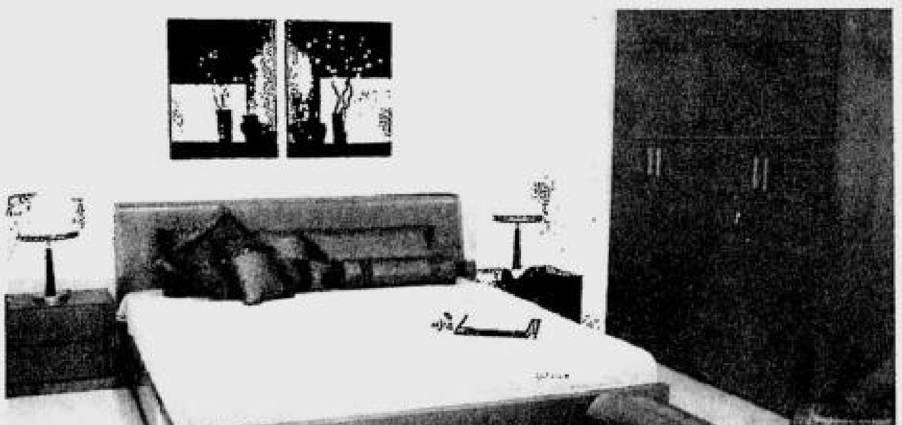
ILLUSTRATION BY STEPH BRAVO

As to potting medium, use a mixture of one part river sand, one part coco coir dust, one part garden soil and one part rotted rice hull. It is recommended that the medium be sterilized. This can be done by heating it in a pan to kill pests and foreign matters.

Watering is done once in every two to three days. Keep this in mind—water only when dry. Provide sufficient sunlight and protect plants from heavy rains with a transparent plastic sheet.

For more about cacti and other succulents, join the Cactus and Succulent Society, which this writer founded. Now headed by Kelvin Belmonte, you can contact this writer at 9394593 or the secretary, Peter Banayan, at 8106337.

Home pieces in natural shades



AFTER a long day, you need something to come home to. The Chateau wooden bed comes with two night stands and can be complemented with Dublex wardrobe to complete the showcase. Available in cherry and natural oak.

PLAY & Display launches its newest collection of living, dining and bedroom furniture.

These come in natural shades of oak, cherry and dark brown. The pieces are made of wood and some of leather.

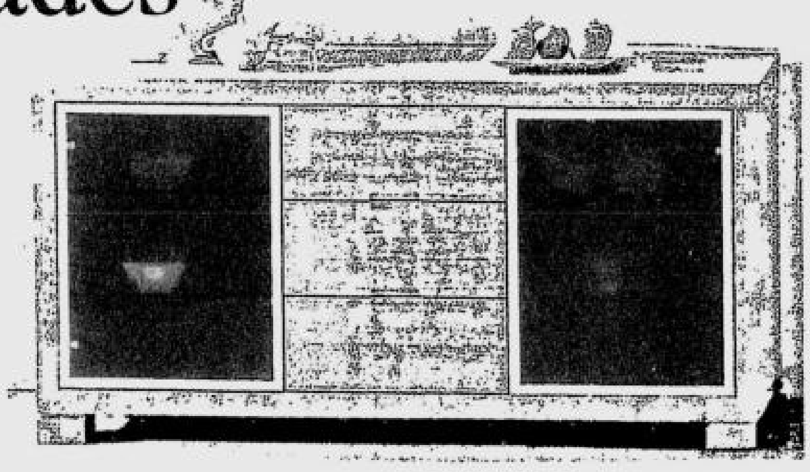
For bedroom furniture, there are four designs to choose from: Slice, Gears, Chateau and Wittman. Gears and Chateau come with night stands, while Wittman has an optional bench to match. Dressers and wardrobes are also available.

A Unite multi-purpose cabinet is the focal point of the living room collection. It can be complemented with the Editors coffee table and Maza side table. But if you are looking for something nice and simple, the Slice TV stand can also double as a floor cabinet.

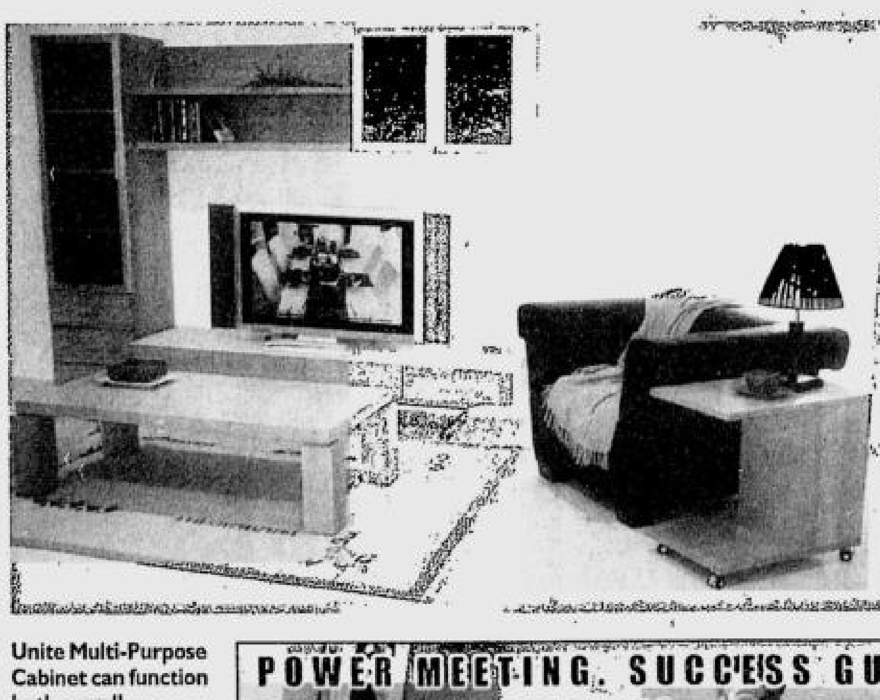
The new dining tables and chairs come in two models each: Platt and Pillar for tables, Miles and Wittman for chairs. Platt and Pillar have matching side cabinets (for the buffet table) to complete the showcase.

These pieces are available at introductory prices with special discounts when you shop this month.

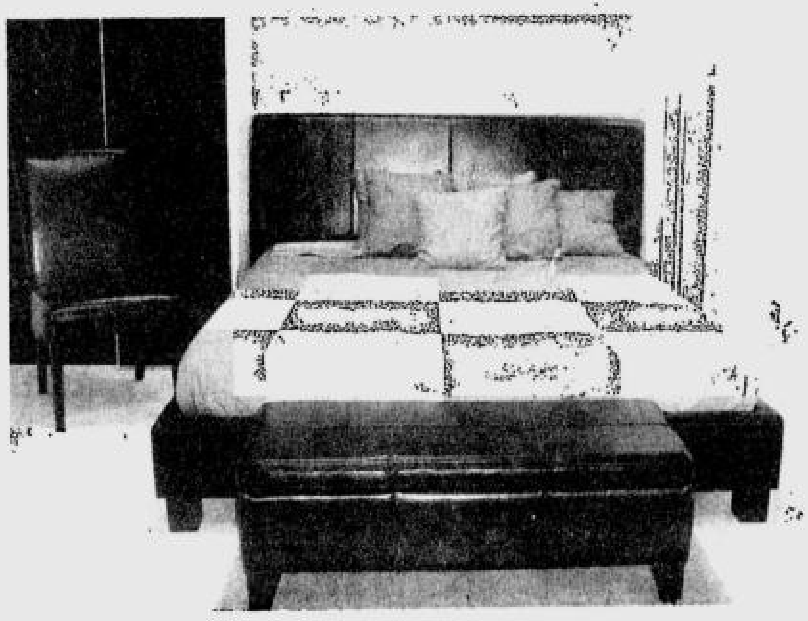
To view the actual products, visit Play & Display showrooms at 6797 Ayala Avenue, Quezon Avenue, Glorietta 4, The Power Plant, Shangri-La Plaza, SM Megamall, SM City North, Festival Mall, Alabang Town Center and SM City Pampanga.



PLATT cabinet can be used for different purposes in your home and office. A suitable side or wall cabinet, it can also be utilized in the receiving area as a display cabinet. Available in cherry and natural oak colors.



Unite Multi-Purpose Cabinet can function both as wall showcase and entertainment system. Definitely an elegant addition for any living room, it is shown here paired with Editors coffee table, Maza side table and Scandi sofa with area rug and throw pillow.



IF you like stability and the smell of leather in your bedroom, check out the Wittman bed, which comes with a matching bench and chair. Available in black and red.

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RAGNAROK

BY ROBERT WONG

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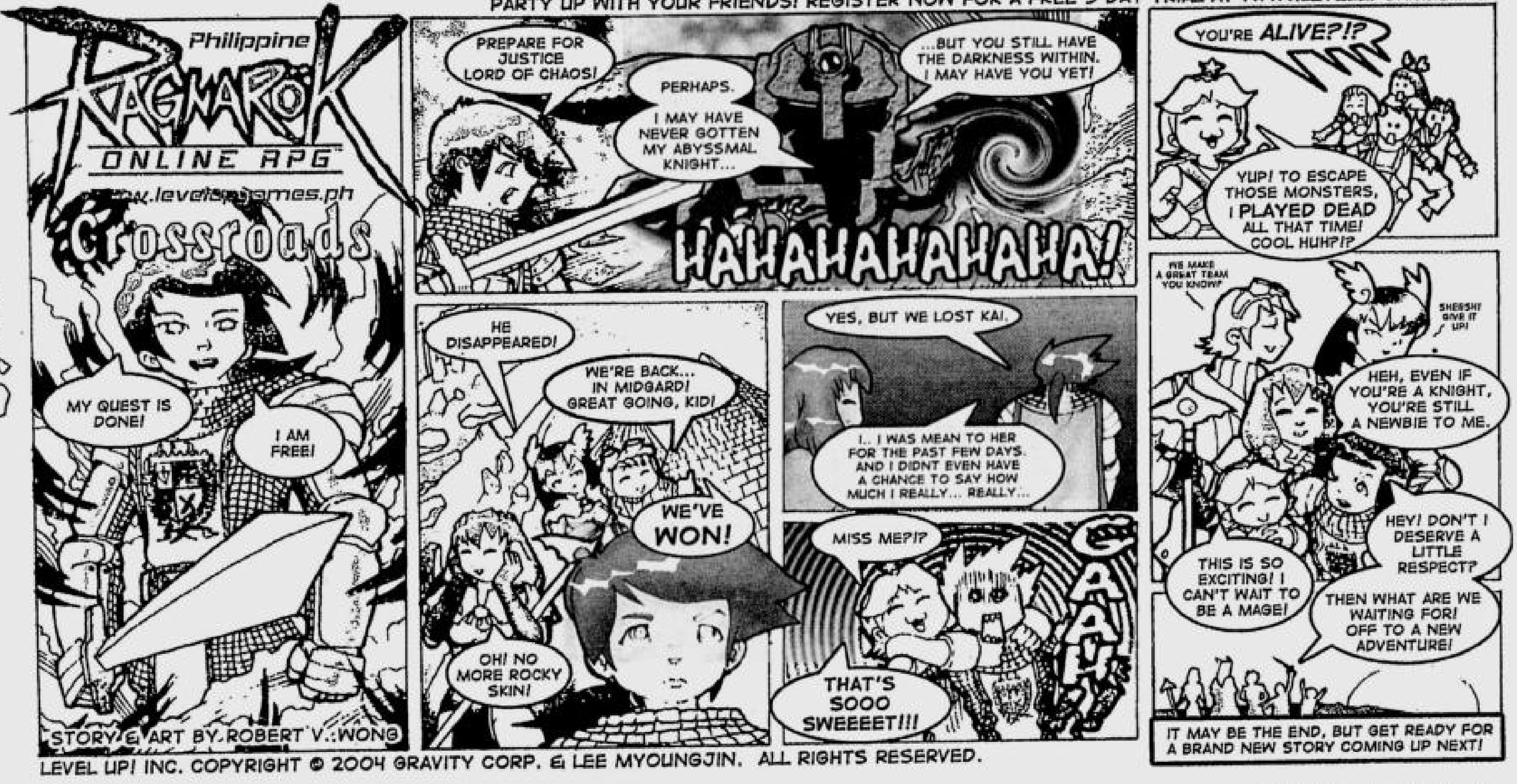
Philippine
RAGNAROK
ONLINE RPG
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Crossroads
MY QUEST IS DONE!
I AM FREE!
STORY & ART BY ROBERT V. WONG
PREPARE FOR JUSTICE LORD OF CHAOS!
PERHAPS.
I MAY HAVE NEVER GOTTEN MY ABYSSMAL KNIGHT...
...BUT YOU STILL HAVE THE DARKNESS WITHIN. I MAY HAVE YOU YET!
HAHAHAHAHAHAHA!
HE DISAPPEARED!
WE'RE BACK... IN MIDGARD! GREAT GOING, KID!
WE'VE WON!
OH! NO MORE ROCKY SKIN!
YES, BUT WE LOST KAI.
I.. I WAS MEAN TO HER FOR THE PAST FEW DAYS. AND I DIDNT EVEN HAVE A CHANCE TO SAY HOW MUCH I REALLY... REALLY...
MISS ME?!?
GAAAH!
THAT'S SOOO SWEEEET!!!
YOU'RE ALIVE?!?
YUP! TO ESCAPE THOSE MONSTERS, I PLAYED DEAD ALL THAT TIME! COOL HUH?!?
WE MAKE A GREAT TEAM YOU KNOW?
SHEESH! GIVE IT UP!
HEH, EVEN IF YOU'RE A KNIGHT, YOU'RE STILL A NEWBIE TO ME.
HEY! DON'T I DESERVE A LITTLE RESPECT?
THIS IS SO EXCITING! I CAN'T WAIT TO BE A MAGE!
THEN WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR! OFF TO A NEW ADVENTURE!
IT MAY BE THE END, BUT GET READY FOR A BRAND NEW STORY COMING UP NEXT!

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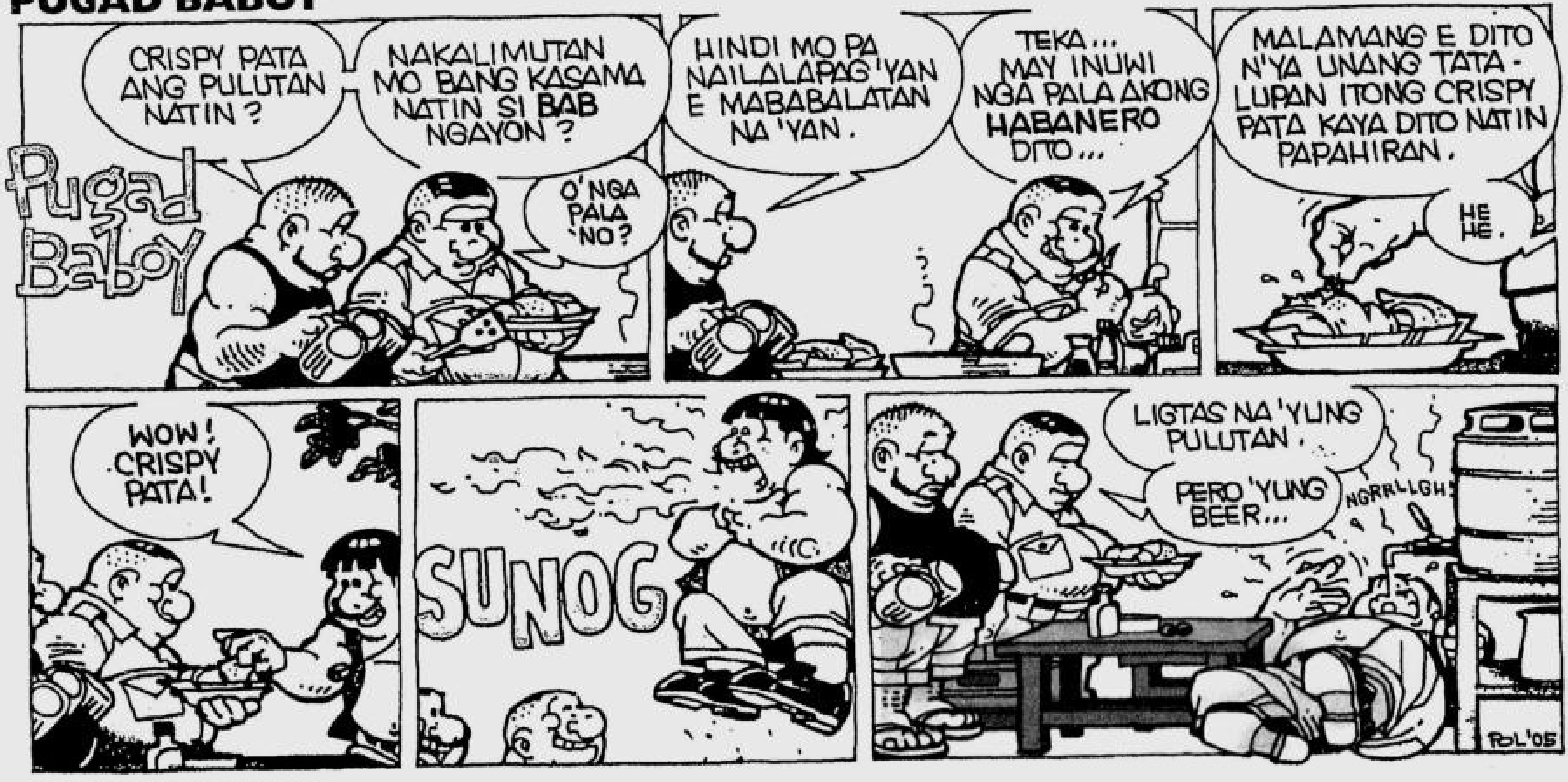
PUGAD BABOY

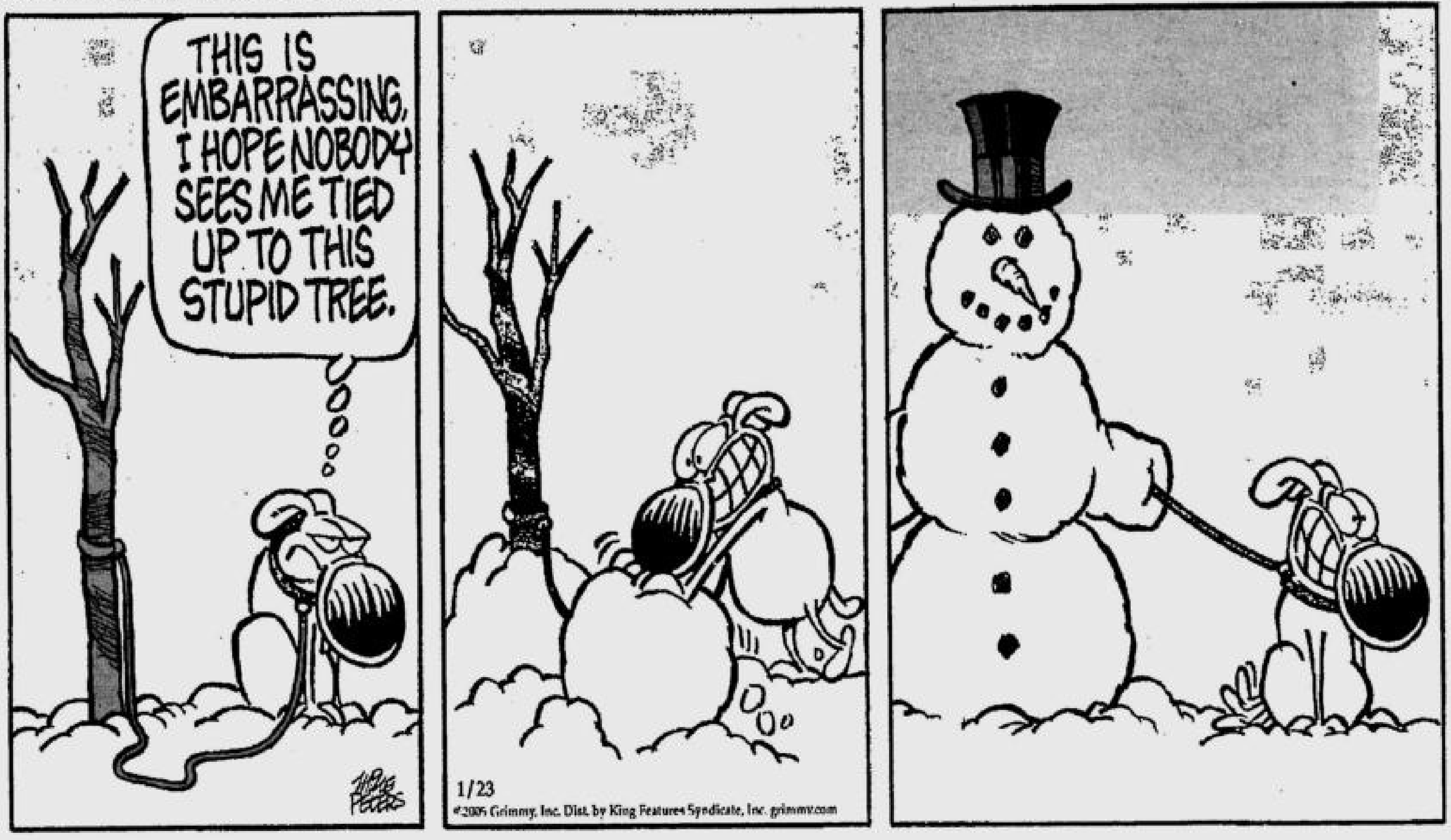
BY POL MEDINA JR.


Pugad Baboy
CRISPY PATA ANG PULUTAN NATIN?
NAKALIMUTAN MO BANG KASAMA NATIN SI BAB NGAYON?
O'NGA PALA 'NO?
HINDI MO PA NAILALAPAG 'YAN E MABABALATAN NA 'YAN.
TEKA... MAY INUWI NGA PALA AKONG HABANERO DITO...
MALAMANG E DITO N'YA UNANG TATA-LUPAN ITONG CRISPY PATA KAYA DITO NATIN PAPAHIRAN.
HE HE.
WOW! CRISPY PATA!
SUNOG
LIGTAS NA 'YUNG PULUTAN.
PERO 'YUNG BEER...
NGRRLLGH!
POL'05

C. FOLLOW THE FOLD TO GET TO

MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

BY MIKE PETERS


THIS IS EMBARRASSING. I HOPE NOBODY SEES ME TIED UP TO THIS STUPID TREE.
MIKE PETERS
1/23
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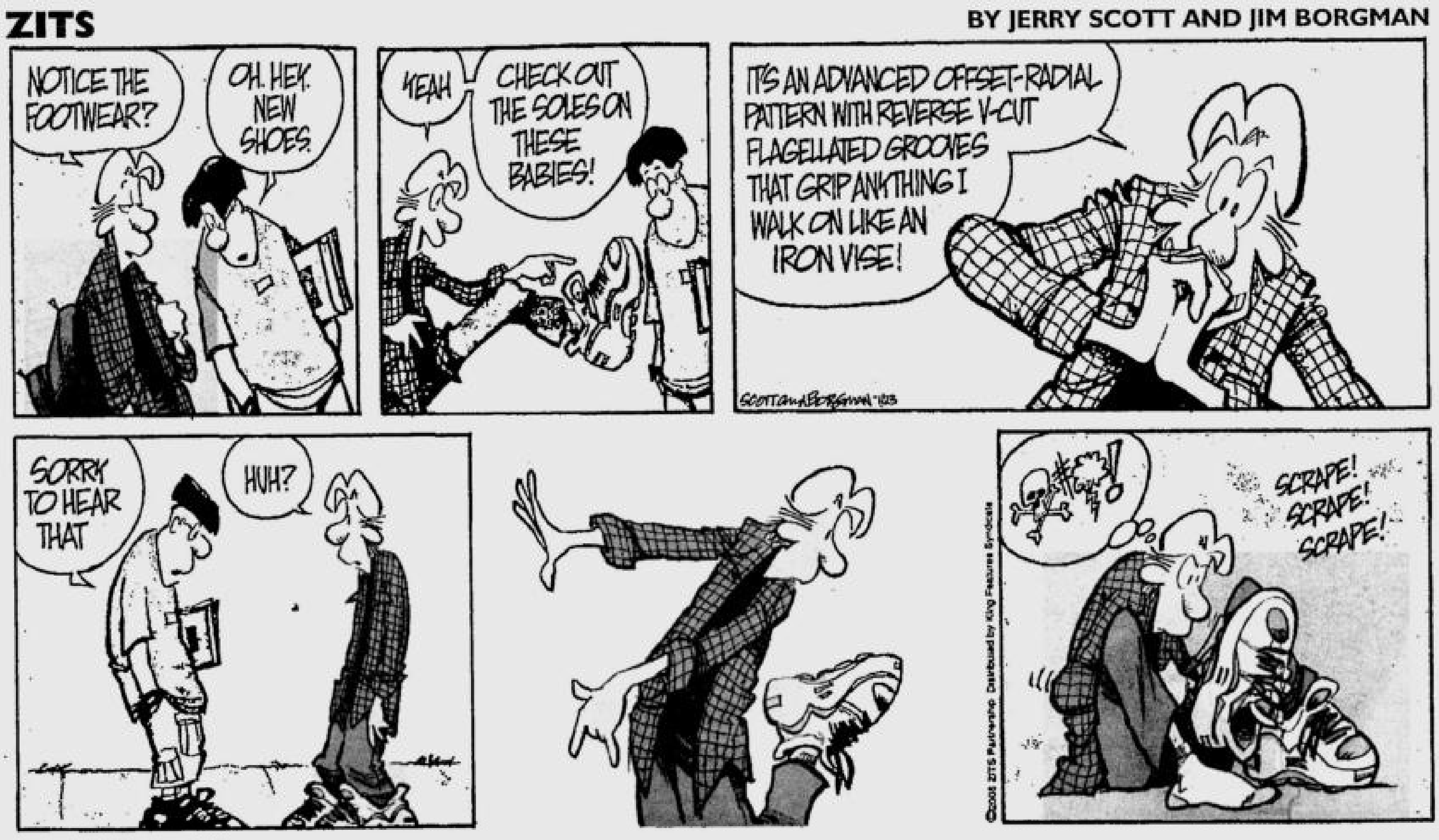
ZITS

BY JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN


NOTICE THE FOOTWEAR?
OH. HEY. NEW SHOES.
YEAH
CHECK OUT THE SOLES ON THESE BABIES!
IT'S AN ADVANCED OFFSET-RADIAL PATTERN WITH REVERSE V-CUT FLAGELLATED GROOVES THAT GRIP ANYTHING I WALK ON LIKE AN IRON VISE!
SCOTT and BORGMAN 1/23
SORRY TO HEAR THAT
HUH?
#!
SCRAPE! SCRAPE! SCRAPE!
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Congratulations to this week's winners: 1) **Victoria M. Lledo, Puerto Princesa City, Palawan 2) Stephen Esperanza, Caloocan 3) Tony Tan, Binangonan, Rizal**
To claim your prizes, please call (02)897-8808 loc. 352. Look for Mr. Dennis Leung

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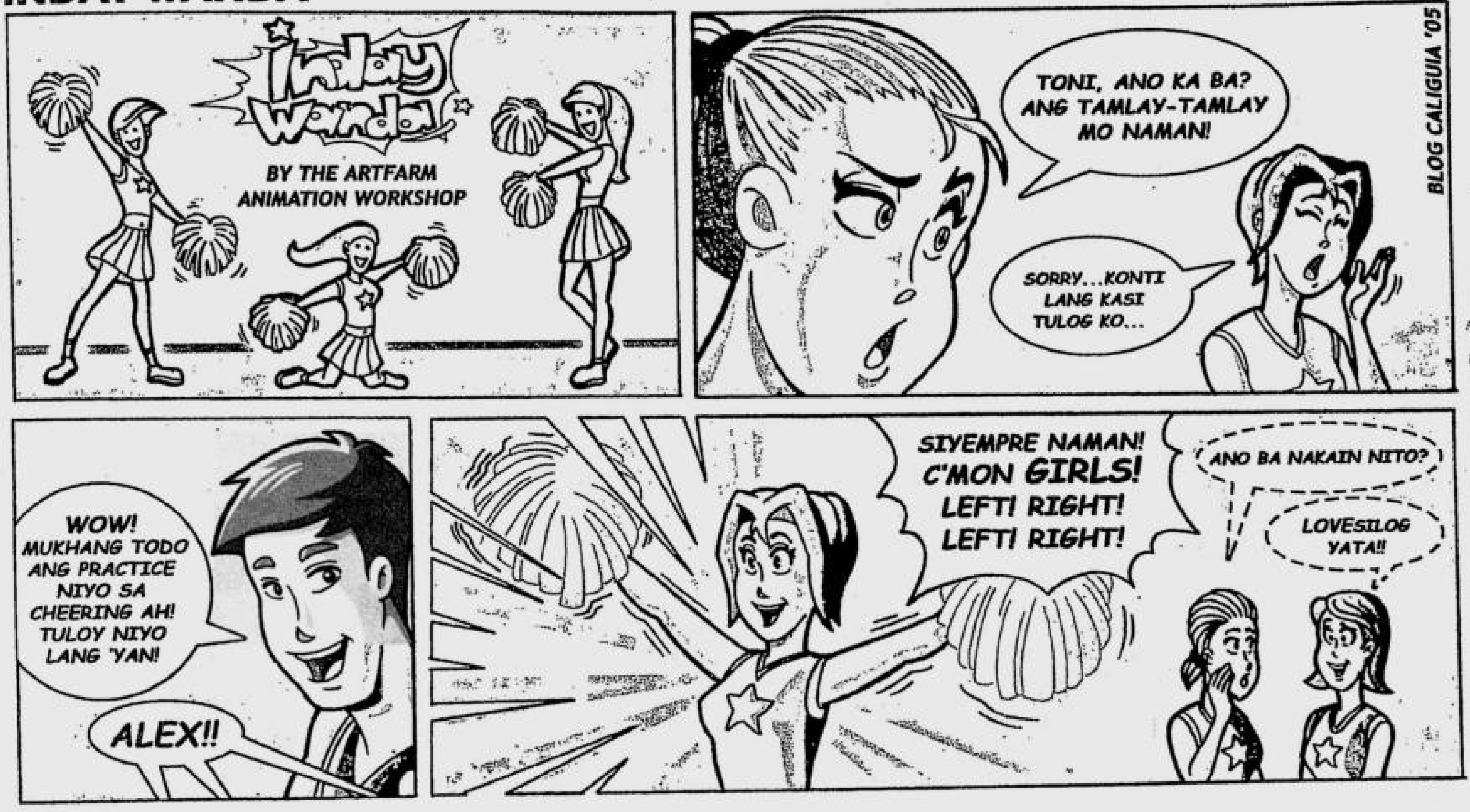
INDAY WANDA

BY BLOG CALIGUIA

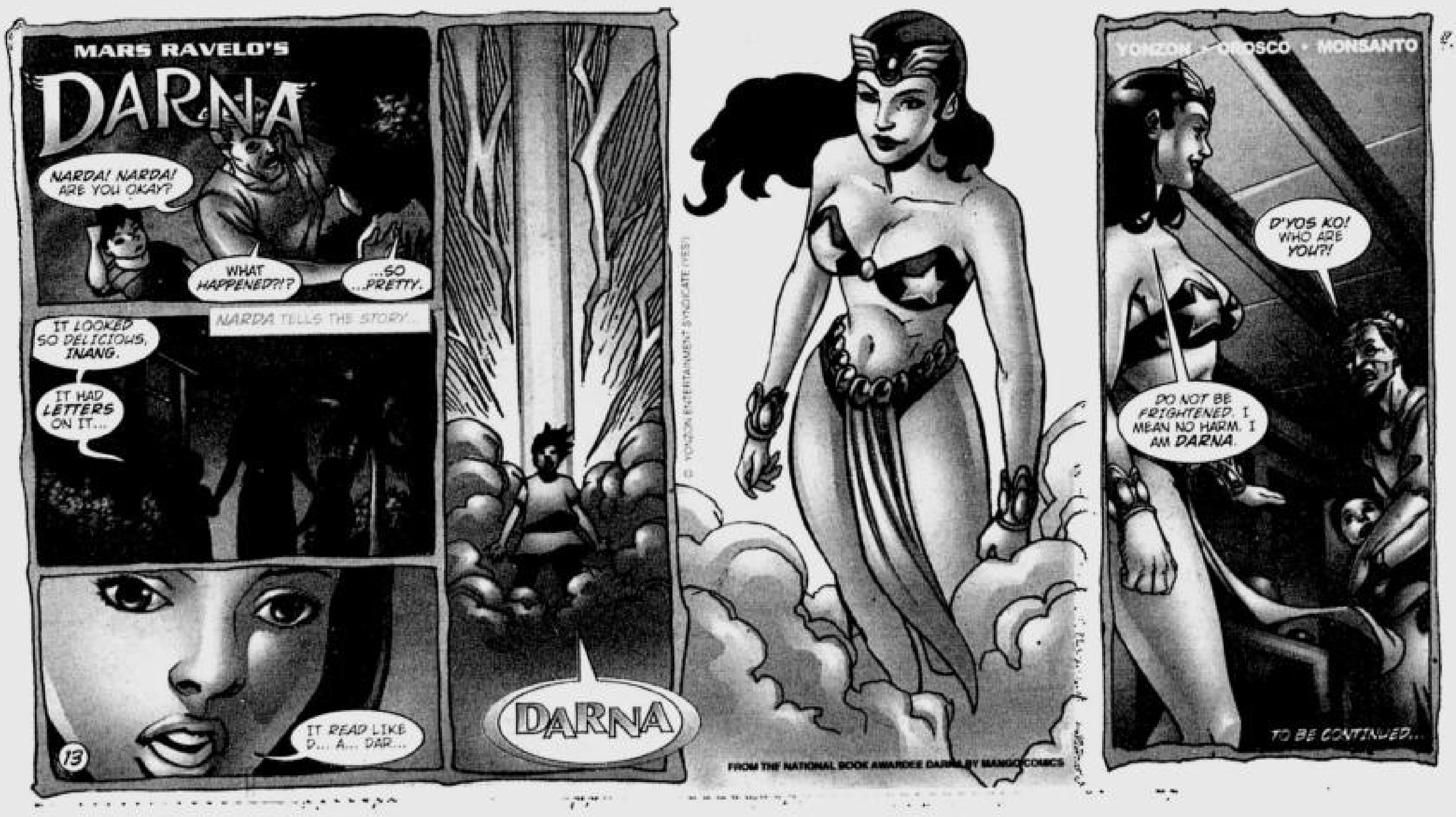

Inday Wanda!
BY THE ARTFARM ANIMATION WORKSHOP
BLOG CALIGUIA '05
TONI, ANO KA BA? ANG TAMLAY-TAMLAY MO NAMAN!
SORRY...KONTI LANG KASI TULOG KO...
WOW! MUKHANG TODO ANG PRACTICE NIYO SA CHEERING AH! TULOY NIYO LANG 'YAN!
ALEX!!
SIYEMPRE NAMAN! C'MON GIRLS! LEFT! RIGHT! LEFT! RIGHT!
ANO BA NAKAIN NITO?
LOVESILOG YATA!!

A.

FOLD OUT AT CENTER TO GET THE BIG PICTURE

DARNA

BY MANGO COMICS


MARS RAVELO'S
DARNA
NARDA! NARDA! ARE YOU OKAY?
WHAT HAPPENED?!?
...SO ...PRETTY.
NARDA TELLS THE STORY...
IT LOOKED SO DELICIOUS, INANG.
IT HAD LETTERS ON IT...
IT READ LIKE D... A... DAR...
13
DARNA
YONZON • OROSCO • MONSANTO
D'YOS KO! WHO ARE YOU?!
DO NOT BE FRIGHTENED. I MEAN NO HARM. I AM DARNA.
TO BE CONTINUED...

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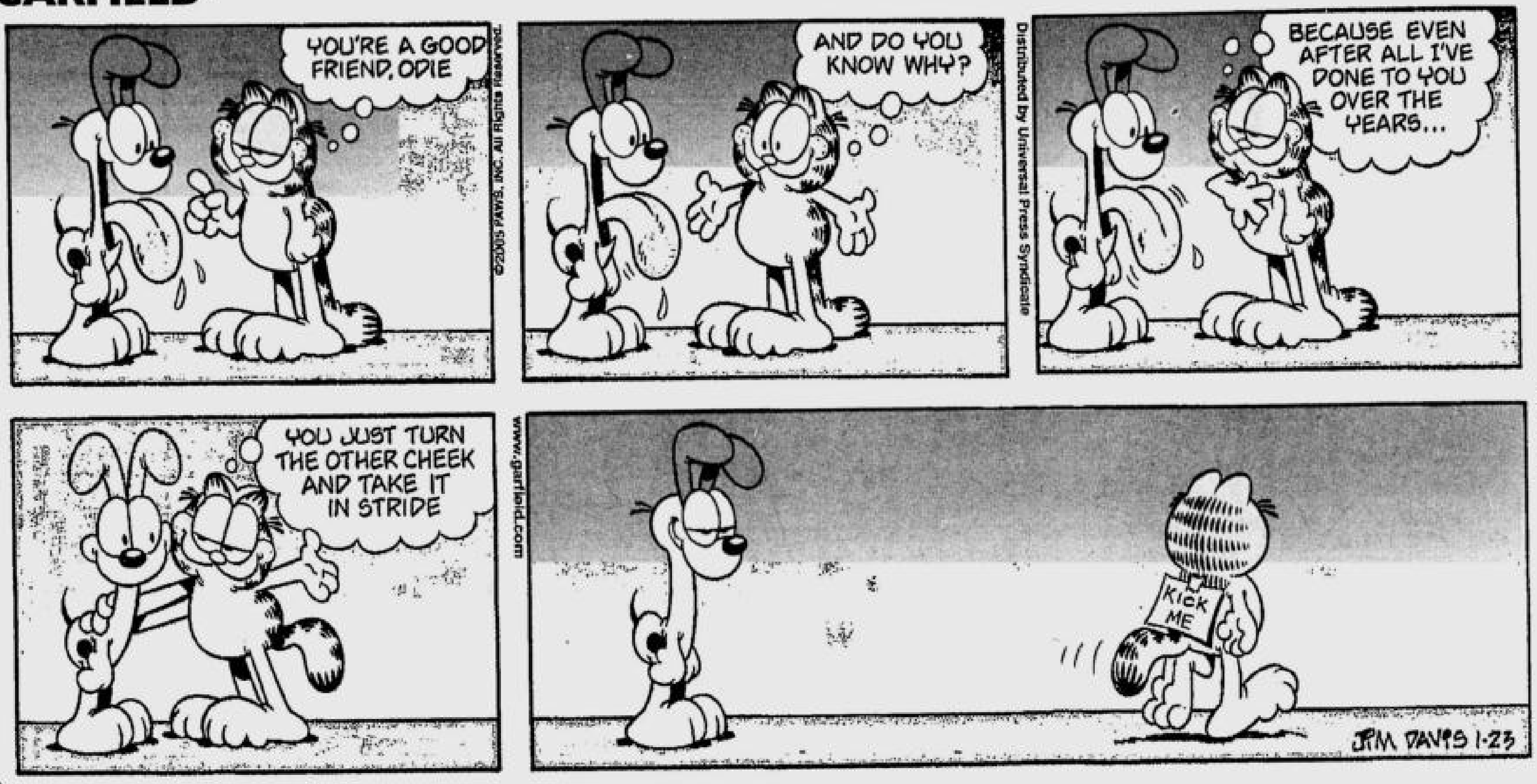
FROM THE NATIONAL BOOK AWARDEE DARNA BY MANGO COMICS

GARFIELD

BY JIM DAVIS


YOU'RE A GOOD FRIEND, ODIE
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AND DO YOU KNOW WHY?
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BECAUSE EVEN AFTER ALL I'VE DONE TO YOU OVER THE YEARS...
YOU JUST TURN THE OTHER CHEEK AND TAKE IT IN STRIDE
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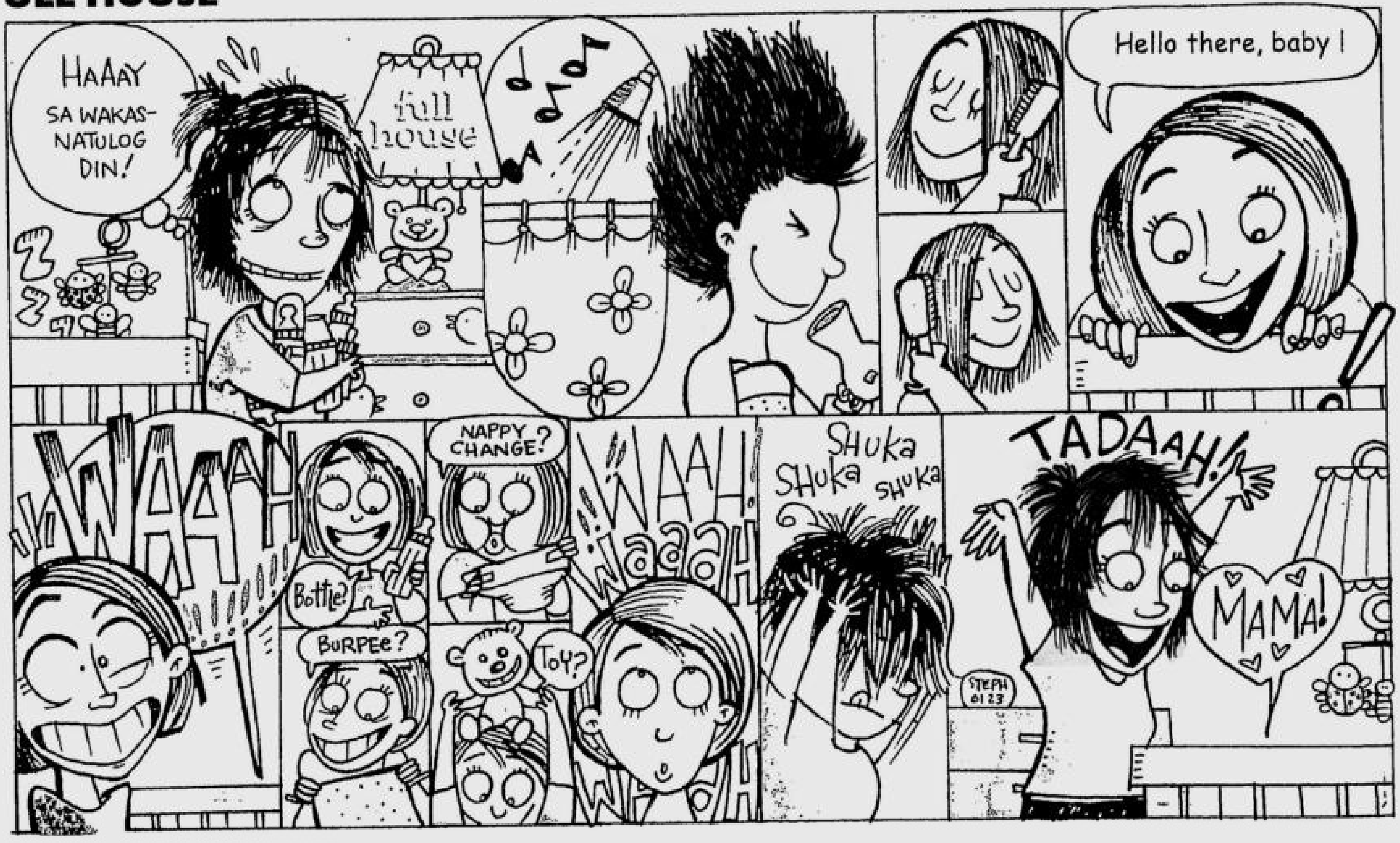
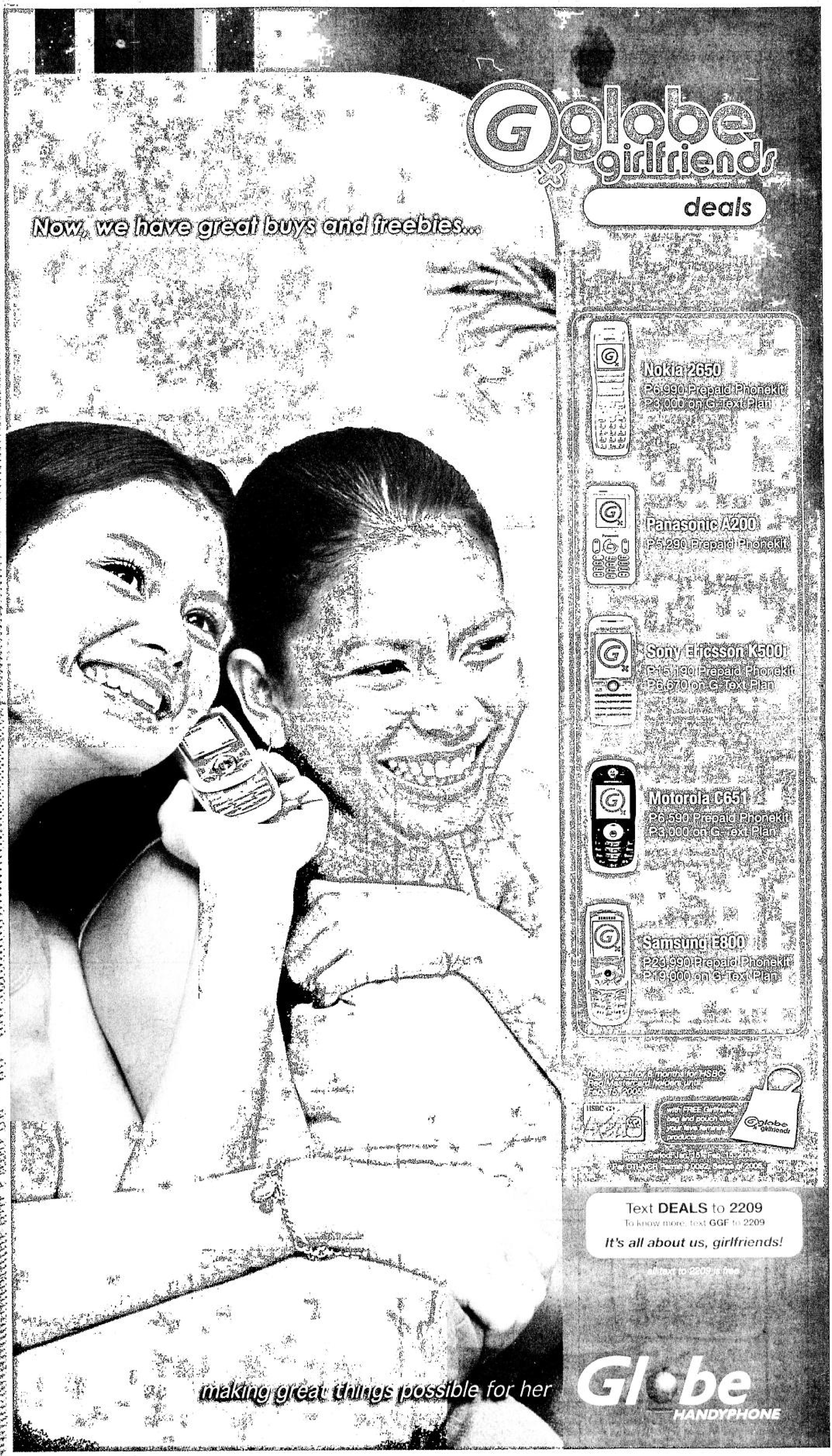
KICK ME
JIM DAVIS 1-23

FULL HOUSE

BY STEPH BRAVO


HAAAY SA WAKAS-NATULOG DIN!
Z Z Z
full house
Hello there, baby !
WAAAH
Bottle?
BURPEE?
NAPPY CHANGE?
Toy?
WAAH! Waaah
WAAH
SHUka SHUka SHUka
STEPH 0123
TADAAH!
MAMA!

B. TURN THE PAGE TO GET IT RIGHT



globe girlfriends

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P6,590 Prepaid Phonekit
P3,000 on G-Text Plan

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CASTILLO-OTERO

Leo Castillo and **Chris Otero** will exchange marital vows on Jan. 30, 8 a.m., in Caleruega, Nasugbu, Batangas. Lunch reception with close family and friends will be held at Sonya's Garden in Alfonso, Cavite. A celebration party will be held in the evening at the Castillo residence in Philam Homes, Quezon City.

EUSTAQUIO 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Dr. **Ismael Morva Eustaquio** and Mrs. **Elisa Infante Eustaquio** will celebrate their 50 years of marriage today, 6:30 p.m., with thanksgiving rites at Manila Peninsula Hotel, Makati. Leading the celebration are their children **Bob, Jimmy, Ish** and **Elaine Matsumoto**, together with the grandchildren and in-laws.

ALCAÑICES-SANCHEZ

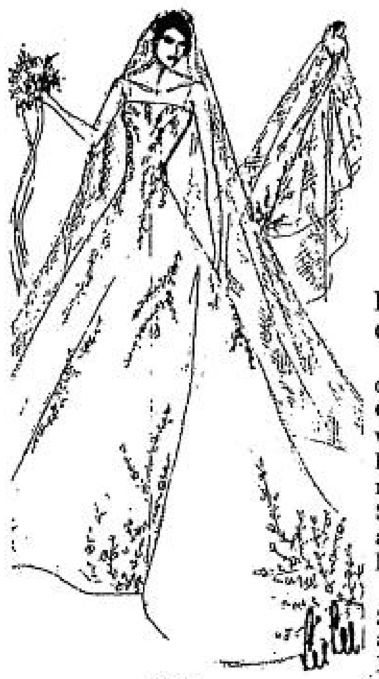
Iris Sanchez, daughter of **Jun** and **Mila Sanchez**, married recently **Jed Alcañices**, son of **Arnel** and **Lorna Alcañices**, at the Nuestra Señora del Pilar Church, Mamburao, Occidental Mindoro. Reception was held at the Sanchez residence, 75 National Road, Mamburao, Occidental Mindoro. Fr. **Wilfredo Aquino** officiated the ceremony.

PLACIDO 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Luciano Placido and **Mamerta Ibañez** recently celebrated their golden wedding anniversary with a thanksgiving Mass at Paco Park Chapel. Reception was held at Dreemhaus Restaurant, Taft Avenue, Manila. The celebration was headed by their children **Manuel, Adoracion, Lourdes, Liberty, Aurora** and **Victoria** and in-laws and grandchildren.

Milestones

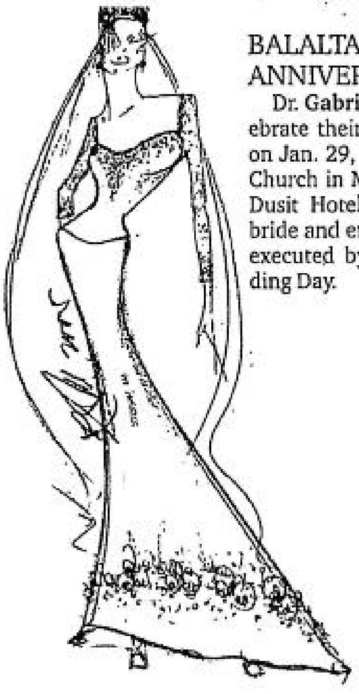
We're accepting announcements of weddings and engagements. Please send the following typewritten information: names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, gown designer and other related information. Readers can send sketches of gowns and pictures of the couple to the INQUIRER *office, or P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City, or e-mail lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph. This will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the sender.*



BUENAFLOR-CASTILLO

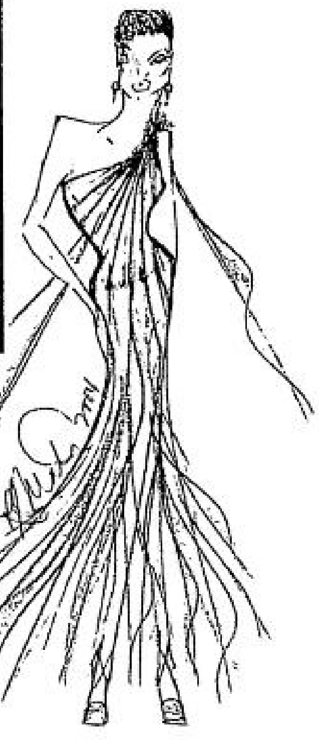
Jane del Castillo, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. **Ernesto del Castillo**, will exchange "I dos" with **Oliver Buenaflor**, son of Mr. and Mrs. **Isagani Buenaflor**, on Jan. 28, 3 p.m., at St. James the Great Parish, Ayala-Alabang. Reception will follow at Alabang Country Club.

The bridal gown and the gowns of mothers of the bride and groom were designed by **Letlet Veloso**.



BALALTA 20TH ANNIVERSARY

Dr. **Gabriel** and **Cyril Balalta** will celebrate their 20th wedding anniversary on Jan. 29, 5 p.m., at Don Bosco Parish Church in Makati. Reception follows at Dusit Hotel Nikko. The gowns of the bride and entourage were designed and executed by **Paul Mateo** of The Wedding Day.



RIETA DEBUT

Jeannie Rieta, daughter of **Jocelyn Corona**, celebrated her 18th birthday at Ibarra's Garden in Malate, Manila. She is a freshman BS Management student at the De la Salle University. Her gown was designed by **Paul Rex Mateo** of the Wedding Day.

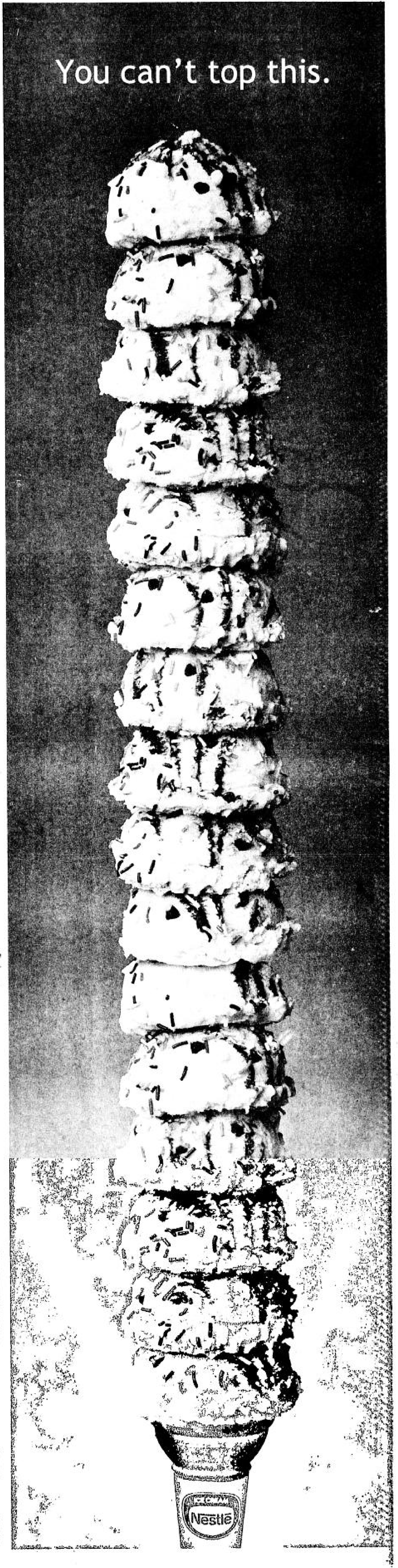
SON DEBUT

Jassy Gayle A. Son, daughter of **Nestor Son** and the former **Ma. Myrna Abejuela**, celebrated her 18th birthday recently at the Pacific Ballroom of the Pan Pacific Hotel in Malate, Manila. She is a second year BS Nursing student at San Beda College.

Her gown, as well as those of cotillion members, was designed by **Raul Valles**. The theme "An Enchanted Night" was conceptualized by the Debutante and Good Concept.

MATEO DEBUT

Judianne Frances Torres Mateo, daughter of Engr. **Francisco Mateo Jr.** and **Agnes Torres**, celebrated her 18th birthday yesterday with a cotillon de honor at The Patio, 185 Maginhawa Street, Sikatuna Village, QC. She is a second year Hotel and Restaurant Management student at the University of Santo Tomas.



THE ENTOURAGE

Voltaire Laureto and Jean Fontiveros take their vows at the same altar where they had been participants in countless liturgical rites

LAURETO-FONTIVEROS NUPTIALS

Finding their love in the faith

By Gloria Garchitorena-Goloy
Contributor

HE had been serving his parish, San Fernando de Dilao, in Paco, Manila, since boyhood. As a student at Paco Catholic School, he would find time on weekdays and Sundays to don the sacristan's robes to assist at Mass, handling the water and wine cruets during the Offertory, shaking the tinkling bell to signal the reverential rites of the Consecration, handling the paten for the people lining up for Communion.

Voltaire Laureto had stood by to assist the officiating priest during Baptism and the more solemn ritual of Confirmation performed by the visiting bishop. Even in the dead of night, if necessary, he was at the beck and call of the priest performing the last rites for the dead or dying.

He was also in the vanguard of processions with the retinue of the parish's Knights of the Altar, during the Holy Week rituals, from Palm Sunday's blessing of the palm fronds, the Good Friday Via Crucis throughout the parish, as well as the high point of the Holy Week which is the Easter procession—and also the subsequent fiesta procession in August—that brought the carroza of the parish patron, Our Lord of the Holy Sepulchre, to the outermost fringes of the large Paco community. The years saw him outgrowing the sacristan's traditional attire.

For a long time Voltaire was a member of the Knights of the Altar, but eventually he assumed more responsible roles among his peers as his trustworthiness and discipline were singled out. He was admitted to the prestigious Knights of Columbus, among erstwhile parish elders, and his scope of parish involvement broadened to include those projects and/or socials that called for interaction with female parish members.

Close ties

And that was how his friendship and eventual close ties with the pretty Jean M. Fontiveros of the lectors and commentators group came about.

As early as 1994, when Jean first started serving at Mass as assigned lector/commentator for the day, the two would find themselves involved in the same Mass rites, the frequency of their joint participation beginning to follow what one would consider the inevitability of God's plan for them.

Not that he never got to meet other girls elsewhere—in his workplace at the American Credit Card Company in Ortigas, at social gatherings outside the parish, in seminars and conferences, as well as the occasional parish excursions.

Jean held a responsible position as supervisor for the Treasury Division of the First Metro Investment Corp., an investment house of Metrobank Corp. She was surely not wanting of potential suitors in her own workplace, where she had been connected since 1998.

But that was not written in God's palm. And so on April 17, 1997, Voltaire and Jean became engaged to one another.

Seven years later (yes, seven!) Voltaire, son of Victorio and Virginia (nee Pineda)—both members of Couples for Christ, took for his bride Jean, daughter of Gilberto and Carmen M. Fontiveros. The ceremony was held on Dec. 11, on the eve of the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, in the parish of Voltaire's boyhood.

In the same altar setting where they had been participants in countless liturgical rites, they were joined in Holy Matrimony at 3 p.m. in rites officiated by Fr. Ronald M. Macale, former parochial vicar who had seen them (especially Voltaire) grow up and grow wise in the service of the Lord.

Jean wore a gown by Nick Plaza, while Voltaire's barong was fashioned by his own father, who is said to be the favorite tailor of the Belgian missionaries who served in the parish.

NEWLYWEDS Voltaire and Jean Laureto at the reception at CCP's Silangan Hall

Entourage

Their wedding entourage reflected their Church-oriented choices: many had been or are still active in parish work.

Best Man Jay O. Gepte was lector/commentator like Jean. Cord sponsors were Enrique Raymond C. Ocampo, former organizer of the Chiro Youth Movement, now studying for the priesthood, and Voltaire's sister Vivian, who teaches at Paco Catholic School.

Groomsman Melvin Semera, candle sponsor Atty. Justine Felix Campaña, and veil sponsor Ronald M. Fontiveros are all former members of the Knights of the Altar. (Other secondary sponsors were Renee June T. Uy, Cynthia R. Gepte, and Vivian P. Laureto.)

The list of principal sponsors included Paco parish leaders, led by former and current parish priests Bishop Teodoro C. Bacani Jr. and Msgr. Domingo A. Cirilos Jr., and former Grand Knight of Columbus Joselito C. Mendoza.

Others were Esmeralda Roxas, head of the parish education ministry, Evangelisto F. Fabro, veteran instructor at Paco Catholic School, Pierre Gloria Carpio, former special minister of the Holy Eucharist, and this writer, former editor of the parish newsletter and fiesta souvenir program.

Indeed the entire entourage, down to the ushers and usherettes, belonged to families who have lived and served in the parish practically all their lives—the Campañas, Pinedas, Balaises, Mendozas, Del Rosarios, Uys, Gonzaleses, Pangans, Geptes, Ocampos, Carpios. Their forebears had pioneered in the supportive involvement with the parochial work of the early Belgian CICM missionaries cf pre-war days.

It is in the context of this involvement that Voltaire and Jean, picking up the tradition of their forebears, found their love, which they proclaimed so beautifully in the following quotation, printed on their wedding invitation:

"This is the true measure of love, when we believe that we alone can love, that no one could ever have loved so before us, and that no one will ever love the same way after us."

WITH Bishop Bacani

THE LAURETOS with parents Gilberto and Carmen Fontiveros (left) and Victorio and Virginia Laureto (right)

Sto. Niño de Providencia miracle marks 13th year

PURELY PERSONAL

Josephine Darang

JANUARY 27 is a special day for all devotees of the Sto. Niño de Providencia because it was that day in 1992 when the Sto. Niño began spilling oil from His body in the house of the late Corazon Gonzales on 65 Pijuan St., BF Resort Village, Las Piñas. This year is the 13th year of the miracle.

At that time there was no chapel yet, but the miraculous image was enthroned in an altar inside the house. Oil was spilling everywhere in the morning of Jan. 27. Auntie Azon (as Gonzales was called) and her daughter did not know what to do. So they asked the nuns belonging to the Eucharistic Disciples of St. Pius X in Philamlife Village to come and help. Much later, the towels used to absorb the oil on the floor were wiped on the sick who would come to pray to the Sto. Niño. They got well. Auntie Azon had a chapel built at the right side of the house which Msgr. Josefino Ramirez blessed on June 16, 1992.

The miraculous oil was collected in a carafe placed below the right side of the Sto. Niño now wrapped in thick wads of cotton. The oil continues to drip to this day, and transferred into tiny bottles and given to the sick.

Since 1992, people have not stopped coming to ask for healing. Terminally ill patients are still alive. Betsy Reyes, who had cancer of the breast, was cured and now serves during yearly processions.

Lorna Gonzales told me her mother bought the image in Tayuman, Sta. Cruz, in 1988. When the miracle happened, Auntie Azon went back to Tayuman, but could not find the store anymore. People in the area told her there was never a store in the place where she bought the image.

It has been 10 years since I have been writing about the Sto. Niño revealing stories of miracles that happened through the years. For instance, women who had difficulty conceiving got their wish after they prayed to the Child Jesus.

My brother Pompeyo Darang Jr. experienced a miracle when he began to suffer from kidney renal failure. I brought him to the chapel and there we prayed for help. When he went back to Laoag thinking that he would die there, the Sto. Niño made it possible for him to be brought to Lorma Hospital in San Fernando, La Union, where he underwent an operation for the insertion of a "pistula" where the dialysis could come through. It was a miracle that my brother Abe had the money for the operation.

Pompeyo is becoming better as he undergoes dialysis twice a week. Back in his job, Pompeyo will go to the fiesta to say "thank you."

Street Mass on Jan. 27

Msgr. Felipe Ocol, parish priest of Mary Mother of the Church Parish in BF. Resort Village, will celebrate Mass with Fr. Abet Banayon on Pijuan Street on Jan. 27 at 8 a.m. Other priests will come to anoint the sick with the miraculous oil of the Sto. Niño. They are Fr. Pio Lumibao, OSB; Fr. Basil Apostol, OSB, whose mother was healed; Fr. Joseph Sou, an Indonesian priest who is chaplain at the Medical Center Manila; Fr. Joseph Tachner, SVD, who will come all the way from Naguilian, La Union; and Fr. Fred Reyes, SVD.

The priests will also concelebrate the 3 p.m. Mass in the church. The motorcade bringing the Sto. Niño to the church will start at 2 p.m. Volunteers who call themselves "Servants of the Sto. Niño de Providencia" will lead in the procession. At least 10,000 people are expected to attend, some coming from Cotabato, Davao and Bacolod. Those who wish to help procure food and drinks can text Lorna at 0918-9181077. Thank you for your kindness.

God Loves is 14

God Loves Catholic Prayer Community celebrates its 14th year with a concelebrated Mass on Jan. 29, 3 p.m., at the Philam Homes Clubhouse in Quezon City. The celebrants are Fr. Domie Guzman, spiritual director; Fr. Mario Sobrejuanite, Fr. Pabs Tagura and Fr. Gene Bacareza. Registration is at 2 pm.

The celebration will be headed by the pastoral team composed of Bro. Robert Castañeda, Bro. Ricky Berenguer, Bro. Jess Santos, Sr. Filaine Tan and Fr. Domie Guzman, SSP.

Please text Sr. Beth at 0918-9215632. For info on the next Life in the Spirit Seminar on April 9, text Sr. Filaine at 0917-8100935 or Sr. Marie at 0917-904-1264.

San Ildefonso Mass

For the first time in the history of San Ildefonso Parish in Bulacan, the town plaza was filled with at least 2,000 people during the first Novena Mass to San Ildefonso last Jan. 14, according to Dr. Gil Villacorte, fiesta caretaker, and engineer Paul Cruz, a member of the Hermandad de San Ildefonso.

On the morning of Jan. 14, people waited along a stretch of 15 km for the arrival of the relic of San Ildefonso brought by the Pope's Mobile. First, the relic was brought to the Sacred Heart Parish in Pinaod where it was welcomed by Fr. Johann Sebastian; then to Mayor Edgardo Galvez at the Municipal Hall; and finally to the church.

Bishop Jose Oliveros will officiate in the concelebrated Mass today at 9 a.m. The procession is at 8:30 p.m. Try to catch it by taking the Sta. Rita exit from the North Expressway. Come and whisper prayers to San Ildefonso.

Fatima visit

Here's an update of the visit of the international pilgrim image of Our Lady of Fatima: Hearts of Jesus and Mary, Bulletin Street, West Triangle (Jan. 23-24); Our Lady of Fatima Parish (Jan. 24-25); and The Most Holy Redeemer Parish, Malac Street, Masambong, Quezon City (Jan. 25-26).

The image recently graced the Diocesan Eucharistic and Marian Congress held at the Diocesan Center, Lantana Street, Cubao. The Philippines will bid her farewell with a Mass to be celebrated by His Excellency, Cubao Bishop Honesto F. Ongtioco, DD, on Jan. 26, 5 p.m., at The Most Holy Redeemer Parish, Masambong, Quezon City.

How to get well

Dr. Teresa Bitanga Valeros, doctor of nutrimedicine and natural healthcare practitioner, says what you eat makes you either well or sick. Her healthcare program focuses on cleansing and nourishing the body, mind and spirit. She believes in fighting disease the natural way by using natural medicines and a strict diet from forbidden foods and drinks. She treated a cancer patient with natural medicine and she got well.

The Messages from Heaven Foundation, which offers Dr. Valeros' health care services, helps priests and nuns who are sick, old and dying.

There's a solution, she says, to every health problem; a method to stay young and have better energy. Call 8072267 or 8217672.

Artificial limbs available

Those who need artificial limbs because they cannot stand or walk can call Penny Bondoc at PGH Rehab 5264357 or UERM at 7160025. These free artificial limbs are offered until tomorrow.

Botolan, Zambales fiesta

The feast day of the Ina Poon Bato will be celebrated today in Mary Hill, Sitio Rosaban, Barangay Poon na Bato in Botolan, Zambales. Zambales Bishop Florentino Labarias will celebrate the Mass with Msgr. Chris Cacho, Fr. Larry Farraon, and Fr. Joey Corpus at 4:30 p.m.

The devotion is propagated by the Ina Poon Bato Foundation led by Roselyn Magsaysay. The foundation sponsors the 12 nn Mass every second Saturday of the month in Greenhills, San Juan. Call 4110874.

LORNA Gonzales (second from left) with devotees Val Ramos and his children Apple and Michael

Attractive bridal packages

HOTEL PonteFino, the only deluxe hotel in Batangas City, welcomes bookings for wedding receptions at its recently opened air-conditioned tent.

The tent can accommodate up to 500 people and is also ideal for cocktails, product launches, conventions and seminars, concerts and other special events. Located in the heart of the city, Hotel PonteFino is near the international port and is a convenient one-and-half-hour drive from Manila through the Star Tollway.

Smart couples will enjoy the value-for-money wedding package that Hotel PonteFino has adapted to the needs of the modern bride and groom.

With a reasonable package of P100,000 for a minimum of 100 persons, couples can enjoy the following irresistible benefits: choice of western, Chinese or Filipino buffet, an overnight stay at the Fino suite for the bride and groom with continental breakfast, a three-layered fondant cake, a bridal car with floral arrangement, a bottle of sparkling wine for toasting, floral center piece for the presidential and buffet table, place cards for VIP tables, guest book, state of the art audio equipment including free use of DVD or VHS with wide screen, stage, dance floor and podium, a special gift for the newlyweds from Hotel PonteFino and a gift certificate worth P1,000 for the hotel's Robusta restaurant where they can enjoy Chef Dennis Edillon's popular new Batangas cuisine.

Couples can also choose from a variety of other wedding packages to suit their specific needs.

Hotel PonteFino is located at Pastor Village, Gulod Labac, Batangas City. Call 4372103, 4213466 or (043) 7233466. Visit www.pontefino.com.ph

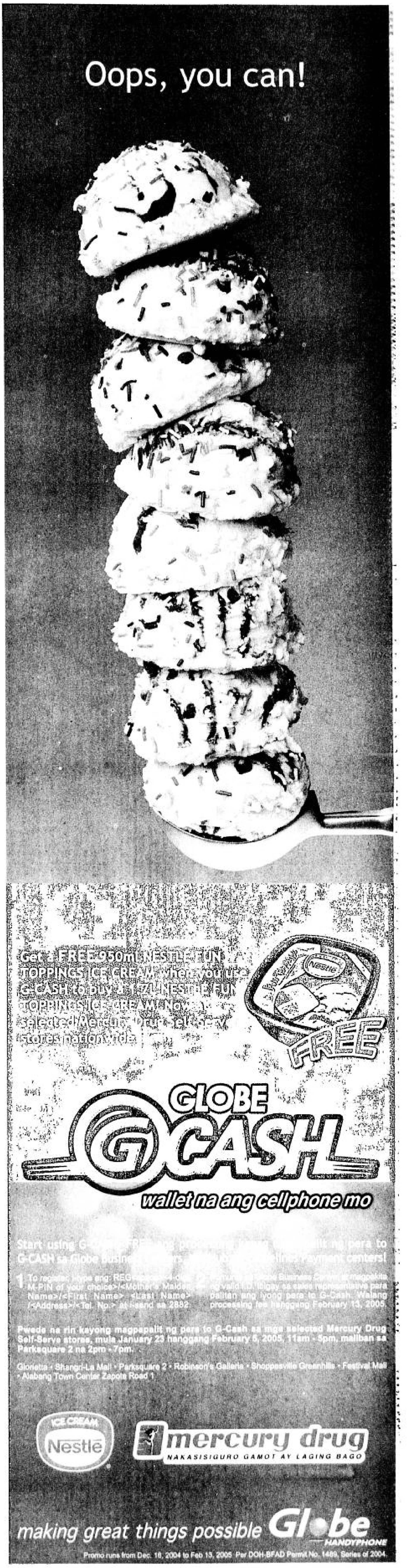
4th Forbes wedding fair Feb. 5-6

THE FOURTH "May Kasal Sa Forbes Park, A Wedding Affair" brings together once again selected wedding suppliers Feb. 5-6 at Santuario de San Antonio Parish Center, Forbes Park, Makati City.

For two days, soon-to-wed couples can have direct consultations with professional coordinators, designers and stylists to help them prepare for the important occasion.

Special features are banquet setups by caterers who have packages to suit different budgets and a special centerpiece by event stylist Henry Pascual.

Call Philtrade Exhibits at 8250804 or 8253482.



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1 To register, i-type ang: REG[illegible]<4-digit M-PIN of your choice>/<Mother's Maiden Name>/<First Name> <Last Name>/<Address>/<Tel. No.> at i-send sa 2882.

2 [illegible] Globe Business Center at magpakita ng valid I.D. Ibigay sa sales representative para palitan ang iyong pera to G-Cash. Walang processing fee hanggang February 13, 2005.

Pwede na rin kayong magpapalit ng pera to G-Cash sa mga selected Mercury Drug Self-Serve stores, mula January 23 hanggang February 5, 2005, 11am - 5pm, maliban sa Parksquare 2 na 2pm - 7pm.

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214	*Luke Mejares*	**214**
My Boo	*Usher & Alicia Keys*	**MYBOO**
How Could You Say You Love Me	*Sarah Geronimo*	**HOWCOULDU**
Penny & Me	*Hanson*	**PENNYME**
Say That You Love Me	*Regine Velasquez*	**SAYDATU**
My Prerogative	*Britney Spears*	**MYPREROG**
Bury You	*The Barbs*	**BURYU**
Karma	*Alicia Keys*	**KARMA1**
Pasaway	*J. Brothers*	**PASAWAY**
Sunday Morning	*Maroon 5*	**SUNDAYMORN**
Kahit Sandali	*Jennylyn Mercado*	**KAHITSANDALI**
Nahuhulog	*Sandwich*	**NAHUHULOG**
Balisong	*Rivermaya*	**BALISONG**
Masaya	*Bamboo*	**MASAYA**
Times Of Your Life	*Martin Nievera*	**TIMESOF**
Tong Song	*Sexbomb*	**TONGSONG**
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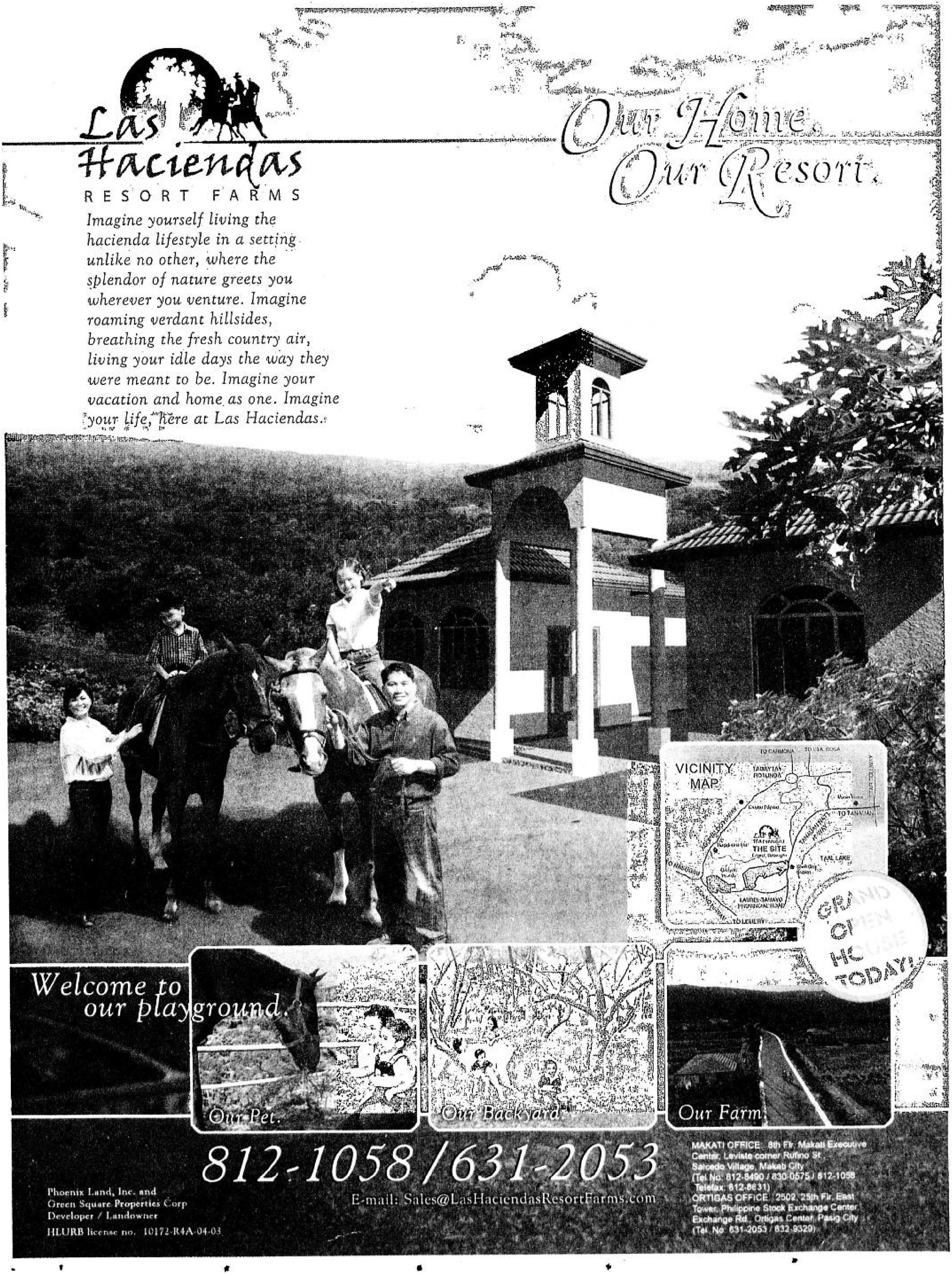
PRETTY Korean staffer in baro't saya

Badian, island haven in Cebu

Text and photos by Amadís Ma. Guerrero
Contributor

THE ISLAND of Badian, so near the mainland, lies 97 km southwest of Cebu City in the Visayan Sea facing Negros Oriental. It is home to an 8-hectare, deluxe resort and spa with a white sand beachfront, attractive architecture, neat landscape, superb accommodations, dive sites, a lagoon and a channel, and coral gardens. And there's a marine sanctuary on the other side of the island.

BADIAN/ F2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Badian island haven in Cebu

SAILING along Badian lagoon, Cebu

From page F1

For this budget tourist, the journey from Manila began with a 21-hour voyage on board the new SuperFerry 19, at P1,665, economy class—promo *pa*, but upgraded to cabinet status by friends from the WG&A Public Relations Department.

From Cebu Int'l. Port, there followed a short jeepney ride (P20) to the South Terminal, and then a three-hour bus (nonaircon P63) through a succession of Cebu towns, including Carcar, a heritage town now threatened by "progress," and Moalboal, a popular dive spot among foreigners.

After two hours of landlocked travel and a mountain zigzag, the view opened up to the sea, a wide beach cove, mangroves and a coastal *barangay*. Then the sea receded from view again. It was good roads all the way, with light traffic.

At the Badian town center (*mercado*), a resort vehicle brought me to the pier. And behold, just a five-minute speedboat ride away was the Badian Island Resort and Spa (tel. 032-4751103).

The visitors were welcomed with festive music by staffers led by sales manager Gwen Salas, garlanded with a traditional lei-pendant of beads and shells, and served a welcome drink spiked with a little gin.

Amenities

A walking tour by staffer Maricel acquainted the guests with what the resort has to offer: A beachfront with pyramid-shaped huts, lounge chairs and hammocks; souvenir boutique, open-air bar with a happy hour, suites, spacious dining hall overlooking the swimming pool, clubhouse with the only TV set in the resort, dive center and spa with cascading wading pools.

I ventured deeper into the island and saw how "the other half"—the employees—live. There's a laundry area, canteen, a men's dorm and a women's dorm.

Everything seemed to be in order, as the resort is run with German efficiency by a Filipino-German corporation. The chair is Hartwig R. Scholz of Hannover, Germany, and the general manager is Maria E. Catral of Alcala, Cagayan. There are sales offices in Cebu City (tel. 032-2536452) and in Hannover.

> The ambience at this resort is soothing and restful. The silence is broken only by low conversation, the hum of passing speedboats and the twitter of birds

The suites are luxurious, a celebration of Filipino décor, fashion accessories and products like beads, shells, bamboo, rattan and bamboo slats. The color motif is basically brown and white. The architecture is Bali-inspired and blends with the natural surroundings. There are big suites, family suites and junior suites.

All the rooms have a view of the sea. Each suite has a naturally-lighted, flower-strewn marble bathtub with hot and cold running water. There are glass walls facing the lagoon. To ensure privacy (just in case someone is watching you from the mainland with binoculars, though it's not likely), just hang the scroll-like panels on the glass walls.

In the verandas are a hammock, chairs, a table where you can write or eat, and flowers. Just outside are more flowers and plants, bougainvillaea, coconut-palm and banana trees. There's a big sheaf of green bananas almost within reach.

The food is another plus factor in the resort. A special dinner (not cheap) consists of amuse bouche (that's fried *lumpia* to you and me), vegetable julienne soup, mango, lettuce and orange salad, *buta ninka itame* (Japanese-style pork) with a little rice, prawns in coconut salad with a little more rice, and finally, baked pineapple and ice cream for dessert.

Seafront spa

The spa is a series of pavilions also facing the sea, with indoor and outdoor amenities and a tropical setting. Wellness music plays in the background. The spa consultant is Yuni from Indonesia, while the spa supervisor is Roland. Their specialty: A three-hour Special Indulgence Package.

"We start with a flower-foot scrub and then we proceed with a body scrub," said Roland. This is done with a body mask. "It is a concoction of natural products which are nourishing as they contain nutrients," explained Yuni.

The client then takes a bath. After an hour and a half, two therapists treat the guest to a four-hand massage for an hour. The remaining half-hour consists of a refresher facial.

Another service of the spa (not part of the package) is a milk bath à lá Cleopatra.

Part of the spa complex is a series of cliff-side wading pools of cascading sea water. The waters are good for arthritis, while inhaling the vapor of the sea water cleans the lungs. Free water aerobics in the wading pools are offered upon request, along with yoga twice a week. This consists of light meditation, capped by "wellness stretching."

Heading the dive center is Anthony (Tony) Leger of Louisiana, USA, a master scuba diving trainer who has been in Cebu for the past 21 years. He has chalked up an impressive record of 3,500 dives from Cuyo Island (in northeast Palawan) to Leyte. "And," he said, "I still see new things."

Among divers abroad, the Philippines is known for its corals, said Leger. "Eighty percent of the known variety of corals are all over the Philippines. You know, these corals originated and developed in the Philippines, Borneo and Malaysia and then spread all over the world."

In the Badian-Moalboal sites, divers can view groupers, red snappers, barracuda, big and small tuna, and the different varieties of tropical fish.

"But the stock of fish is going lower because of overfishing. It's like this all over the world," said Leger.

There are 14 dive sites within 30 minutes of the resort, with the premiere diving destination being Pescador Island, which is clearly visible from Badian.

All the diving around Badian is wall diving, which, as Leger explained, means a shelf of 3-5 meters followed by a dropoff between 20-60 meters: "Recreational diving can go up to 40 meters, but I limit the maximum depth to 30 meters for safety reasons."

For safety and pleasure, Leger keeps the group small, 4-5 divers plus a guide who is a divemaster under him. In case of a problem, the master trainer advises a diver to stop, think and act: "Don't surface immediately, and you have to breathe through the mouth. Basically, you never dive alone, you should have a buddy."

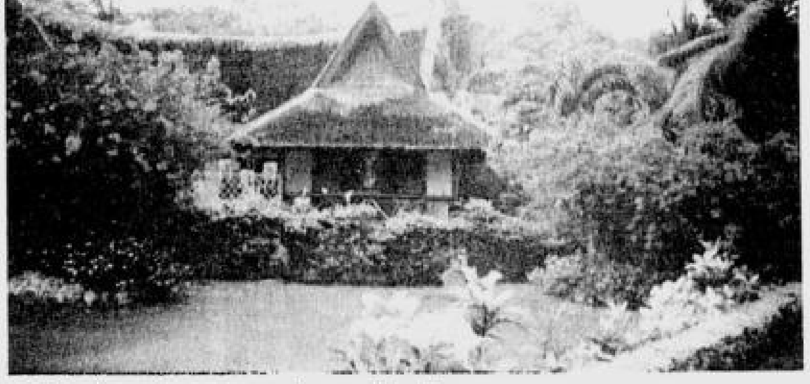
The briefing was followed by a tour of the island in a glass-bottom boat, so as to see the corals. There was an abundance of these in shallow waters, surfacing and then receding when the sea turns dark and deep. "As you can see, the corals are in excellent condition," Leger noted.

Calm mornings

The waters of the lagoon are always calm. The town and resort are protected by the mountains, which are denuded but green, with a lot of small peaks forming striking shapes.

The ambience at Badian Island is soothing and restful. The staffers are unfailingly courteous, and you can see some promenade in their attractive native costumes on their way to the dorm. The silence is broken only by low conversation, the hum of passing speedboats and the twitter of birds.

It is a peaceful, idyllic scene. Come mornings it is low tide, and the dark shapes of the sea grass appear in the lagoon. From the veranda, you can see the fisherfolk casting their nets in the shallow waters, and hear the laughter of their children looking for shells.



COZY junior suites accommodate small families.

TRAVELBRIEFS

Suites available at half price

OXFORD Suites brings back its 50-percent-off promo.

Until May 31, prices are $45+ for Superior Suite, $55+ for Executive Suite, $75+ for the Deluxe Suite and $250+ for the penthouse unit, the O Suite.

Room rates are inclusive of breakfast.

Managed by BRYCL Resorts International, Oxford Suites offers fully furnished Superior, Executive, Deluxe, Junior and One-Bedroom Suites plus the top of the line O Suite.

Amenities include a well-equipped gym, on-call masseuse, satellite television, in-room safety deposit box, coffee and tea making facilities, mini bar, laundry and pressing services, coffee shop, business center and three levels of parking area. A second restaurant will soon be opened.

The 50-percent-off promo is open to local residents and foreign guests.

Oxford Suites is located at the corner of Durban and P. Burgos Sts., Makati City. Call the eight-digit hotel number, 67003333, or the reservations hotline 8990548 or log on to www.oxfordsuitesmakati.com.

Boracay aims to be world's best tropical beach

Aklan's newly elected government officials are planning to make Boracay the best tropical beach destination in the world.

Aklan Rep. Florencio Miraflores and Gov. Carlito Marquez both revealed plans to further promote the country's most popular tourist destination during a testimonial dinner for them hosted by the Archbishop Gabriel M. Reyes Memorial Foundation. They identified Boracay as one of the most important keys to Aklan's continued prosperity.

Miraflores, the former Aklan governor, said because Boracay was a premier tourist destination, maintaining the island's beauty was of primary concern.

Newly elected Governor Carlito Marquez also pledged to lead more efforts to preserve the island, which contributed significantly to the over-all growth of Aklan.

Miraflores and Marquez also cited the importance of another Aklan institution, the Ati-Atihan festival, in Aklan's development. Another Aklan "native" that will get the officials' attention is the piña weaving industry. They noted that *piña* was the most famous of Philippine fabrics.

The dinner hosted by the Archbishop Gabriel M. Reyes Memorial Foundation, headed by Art Alejandrino as president, was held at the Philippine Army Officers Clubhouse in Fort Bonifacio. Other provincial officials present were Vice Governor Ronquillo Tolentino, Kalibo Mayor Reymar Rebaldo, and Kalibo Vice Mayor Nilda Tambong, among others.

Holy Land, Jordan tour organized

A pilgrimage tour of the Holy Land in Israel plus historic and religious sites in Jordan is being organized.

The tour begins in Amman, Madaba (archaelogical site known for its Byzantine mosaic treasures and the Church of the Virgin Mary), Mt. Nebo (where Moses is buried) and Petra (Hidden City with its beautiful monuments) in Jordan.

The Israel leg will cover Yardenit, Sea of Galilee, Capernaum, Tagbha, Mt. of Beatitudes, Mt. Tabor, Cana, Nazareth, Ceasarea, Jaffa, Jerusalem, Mt. of Olives, Garden of Gethsemane, All Nations Church, Dominus Flevit, Mt. Zion, St. Peter's Church in Gallicantu, Dormition Abbey, Old City, Pool of Bethsaida, Holy Sepulchre Church, Bethlehem, Ein Karem, among others.

Call 8154938 or 8156925 or visit Windsor Tower, 163 Legazpi St., Legazpi Village, Makati City.

Hotel treats for the Year of the Rooster

Celebrate the Lunar Year of the Green Wood Rooster at the Astoria Plaza.

Check into a one-bedroom suite for only P2,750+ and a two-bedroom suite for P3,950+. Special Lunar New Year room rates are inclusive of buffet breakfast, complimentary bottled mineral water, round-trip shuttle service to nearby malls and free use of the gym and the pool.

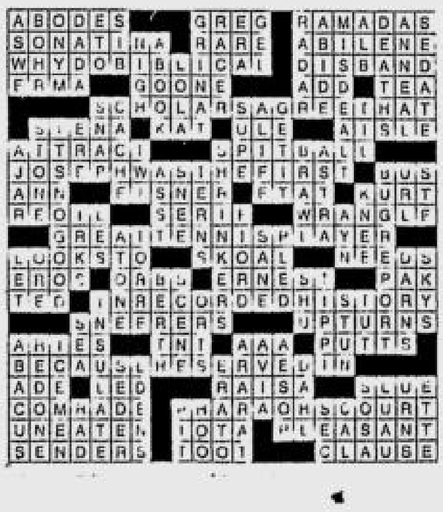
Astoria Plaza's Chinese New Year Room Promo is valid Feb. 7-9.

You may also treat your family and friends to an authentic Chinese lunch buffet at the Café Astoria for only P520+ per person. They can enjoy dimsum, tikoy and fortune cookies. A receipt worth at least P1,500 entitles you to a free computerized feng shui and Chinese geomancy forecast.

The Astoria Plaza is managed by Genesis Hotels & Resorts and is part of the Cathay group of companies. It is located at 15 J. Escriva Drive, Ortigas Business District, Pasig City.

Call 6871111, e-mail sales@astoriaplaza.com or visit www.astoriaplaza.com.

ANSWER TO SUNDAY CROSSWORD



Meet
Russell Watson

The European Sensation

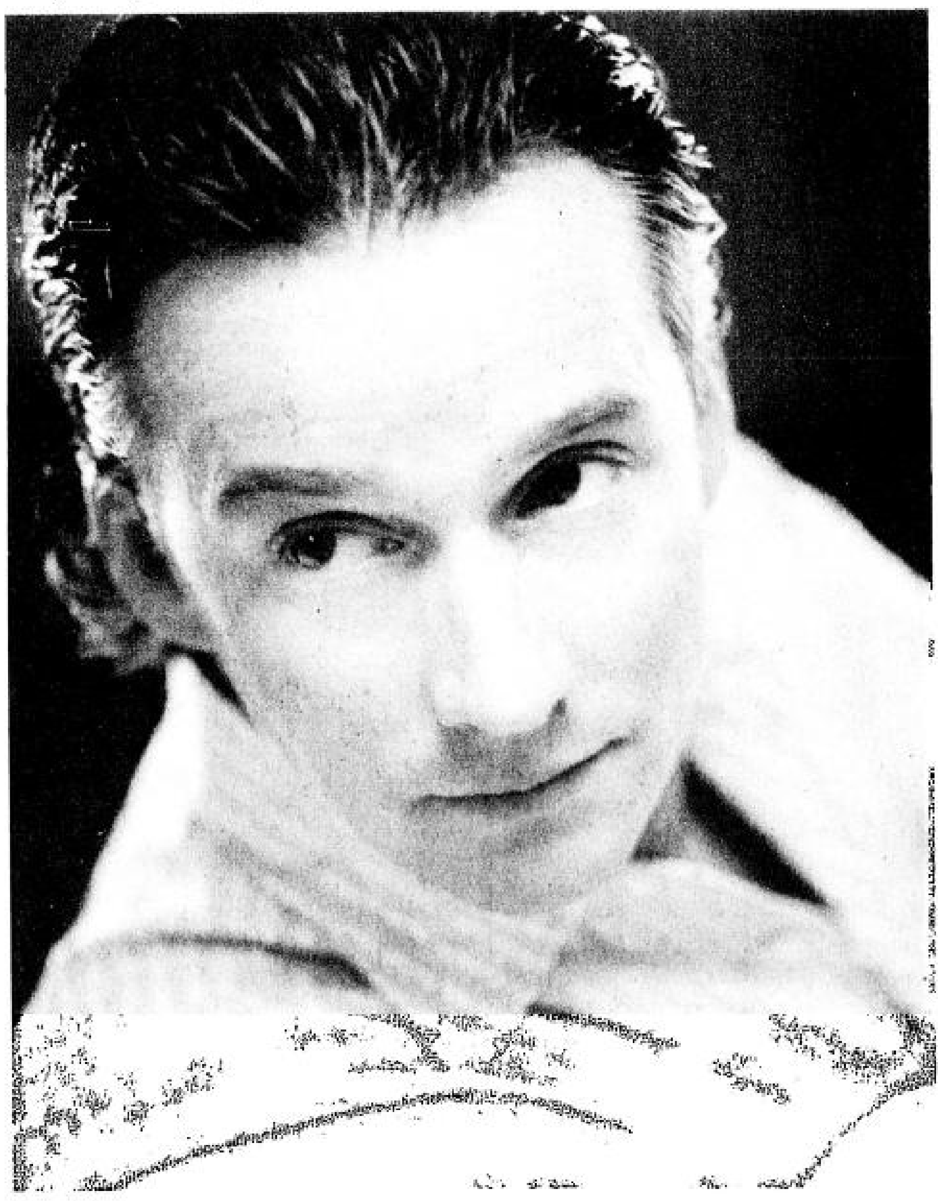
Groomed by fans and critics to be the third and final member of the "new" Three Tenors in the league of Josh Groban and Alessandro Safina, British tenor Russell Watson inadvertently became an opera singer by a stroke of luck. A regular performer in bars and clubs in the outskirts of London and Manchester, one of the venue's owners requested that Watson learn Puccini's "Nessun Dorma", as he believed his voice was better suited for opera. Watson willingly obliged and promptly added the classic number to his repertoire.

Fast Lane to Success

Before he knew it, Watson signed up with giant label Decca Records issuing his debut, entitled The Voice, in April of 2001. Dubbed "the People's Tenor" (since he's a firm believer in getting first-hand feedback from his fans), Watson seems set to conquer the rest of the music world. He has already converted more than a few opera naysayers with his contemporary versions of the late Freddie Mercury's "Barcelona (Friends Until the End), Simon & Garfunkel's "Bridge Over Troubled Water" and Ultravox's "Vienna", in addition to the standards. Referring to his humble beginnings, he once told an interviewer, "The only way is up from here. One minute shoving nuts and bolts into a lathe and the next thing, top of the UK charts," the tenor said.

SMART Infinity Sponsors Russell Watson Live in Manila

SMART Infinity is proud to be a major sponsor of this chart-topping sensation's upcoming concert at the PICC Plenary on Thursday, February 10, 2005. Because SMART Infinity wants you to enjoy life's best, you can expect Russell Watson on stage with our very own local talents who require no introduction—maestro Ryan Cayabyab along with the San Miguel Philharmonic Orchestra. As always, SMART Infinity subscribers will receive free tickets to what is sure to be one of the most enthralling musical events of the year. For non-SMART Infinity subscribers tickets are now selling at P3,500, P5,000 and P8,000.



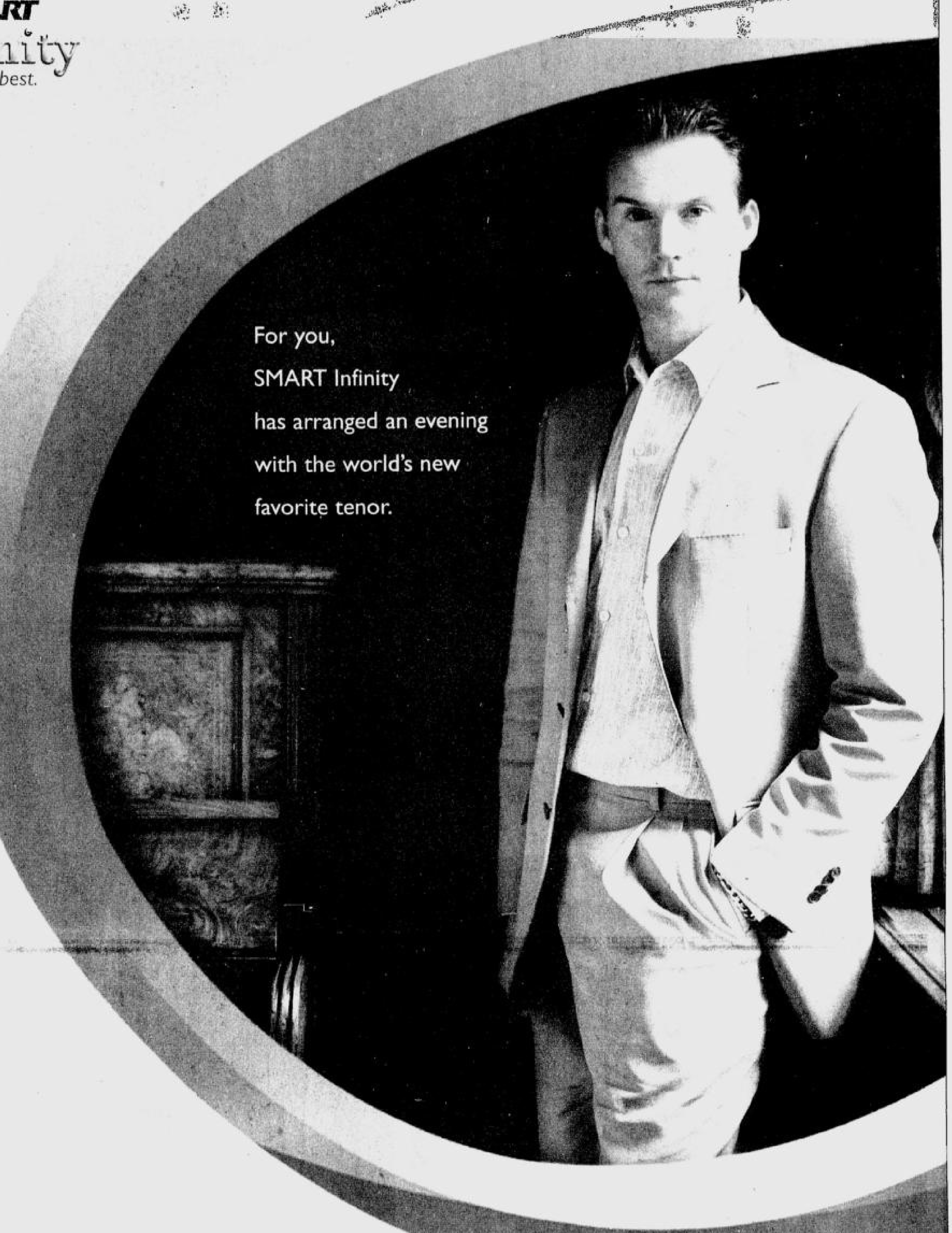
Enjoy Life's Best

For those already on SMART Infinity plans, free tickets to an exclusive concert such as this comes as no surprise. SMART Infinity is truly committed to providing its subscribers with the best life has to offer. Free admission and VIP treatment at all exclusive SMART Infinity events comes as standard for its subscribers. A dedicated account manager is assigned to each and every subscriber, always ready and able to assist them with all their needs. And fantastic bundles are yours for the taking, just by signing up for a plan.

Experience unparalleled customer service and access to the most exclusive and talked about events in town. Sign up for a SMART Infinity plan today and you'll find yourself in the company of other satisfied subscribers, living it up... as Russell Watson performs right before your very eyes.

SMART infinity

SMART
infinity
Enjoy life's best.



For you,
SMART Infinity
has arranged an evening
with the world's new
favorite tenor.

An Evening with Russell Watson, PICC Plenary Hall, February 10, 2005

Get this one rare chance to enjoy Russell Watson who rose to international prominence as a classical singer in the mold of Placido Domingo, Jose Carreras and Luciano Pavarotti. Let his angelic voice soothe you with his rendition of classics like Puccini's "Nessun Dorma" or popular hits like Simon & Garfunkel's "Bridge Over Troubled Water".

TONES

For monotones, text **TONE** <keyword> to 209.
For polytones, text **POLY** <keyword> to 209.

SONGS	KEYWORD
You Raise Me Up	RW1
You Are So Beautiful	RW2
The Prayer	RW3
Bridge Over Troubled Water	RW4
Someone Like You	RW5
Nella Fantasia	RW6
La Donna é Mobile	RW7
Nessun Dorma	RW8

MMS WALLPAPERS

Text **MMS** <keyword> to 209.

RWM1

RWM2

RWM4

RWM5

THEMES

To download Themes:
1. Log on to the SMART WAP site at http://wap.smart.com.ph
2. Go to Amazing Still.
3. Go to Handset Themes.
4. Click on Russell Watson.
5. Select corresponding phone model.
6. Select Russell Watson theme of choice.

All current SMART Infinity subscribers under Plan 8000 get a free Russell Watson CD.

All new SMART Infinity applications received from January 23 to February 10, 2005 and subsequently approved get a FREE Russell Watson CD.

Russell Watson

Text RUSSELL to 209.

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Promo period: January 23 to February 10, 2005
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0271, Series of 2005.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 23, 2005
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
Sunday LIFESTYLE

For feedback, e-mail us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

Text us your feedback:
Inquirer life name/city/message to
2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

JIM Paredes shares a moment with Baby O' Brien.

TINA Revilla-Valencia and the late Walter Navarro

GABBY Concepcion starred in three Close Up commercials.

TONTON Gutierrez and Dawn Zulueta in that memorable ferris wheel ride

"I DON'T think so," says Bea Valdes. "I think so!" answers Robin Da Roza.

"ARE you free Friday night?" asks Alain Sia of Maite Araneta.

BEAUTY queen Aileen Damiles

NOTHING can come between Karel Marquez and Zack Hoegen-Esch.

LUCKY Luis Manzano and Mariel Rodriguez

FORMER MTV VJ Belinda Panelo

Their smiles made us fall in love

The Close Up commercials through the years have featured very memorable faces

HEART Evangelista and John Prats

THEIR smiles have elicited oohs and aahs. Their romantic encounters have inspired and thrilled. Yes, they have touched our hearts.

Dawn Zulueta, Gabby Concepcion and Richard Gomez are but few of the countless Close Up models who have made us fall in love.

Through its models and commercials, Close Up has depicted love in a positive and innocent light. It has mirrored the way the young perceived romance.

Former Close Up models include former Sen. Loren Legarda and Rep. Miguel Zubiri; Tonton Gutierrez, William Martinez, Mark Gil, Plinky Recto, Lloyd Samartino, Tina Revilla, Jim Paredes, Cheska Diaz, Patrick dela Rosa, Robin da Roza, Matt Mendoza, Kate Gomez, Alain Sia, Belinda Panelo, Mia Prats, Jobelle Salvador, Joed Serrano, Rita Avila, Jayvee Gayoso, Rudolph Yaptinchay, Mandy Ochoa, Sheila Ysrael, Leo Rabago; and beauty queens Dindi Gallardo and Aileen Damiles.

IT'S A STRIKE with Stephanie Kienle and heartthrob Brad Turvey.

SOAP actor TJ Trinidad reveals his secret admiration.

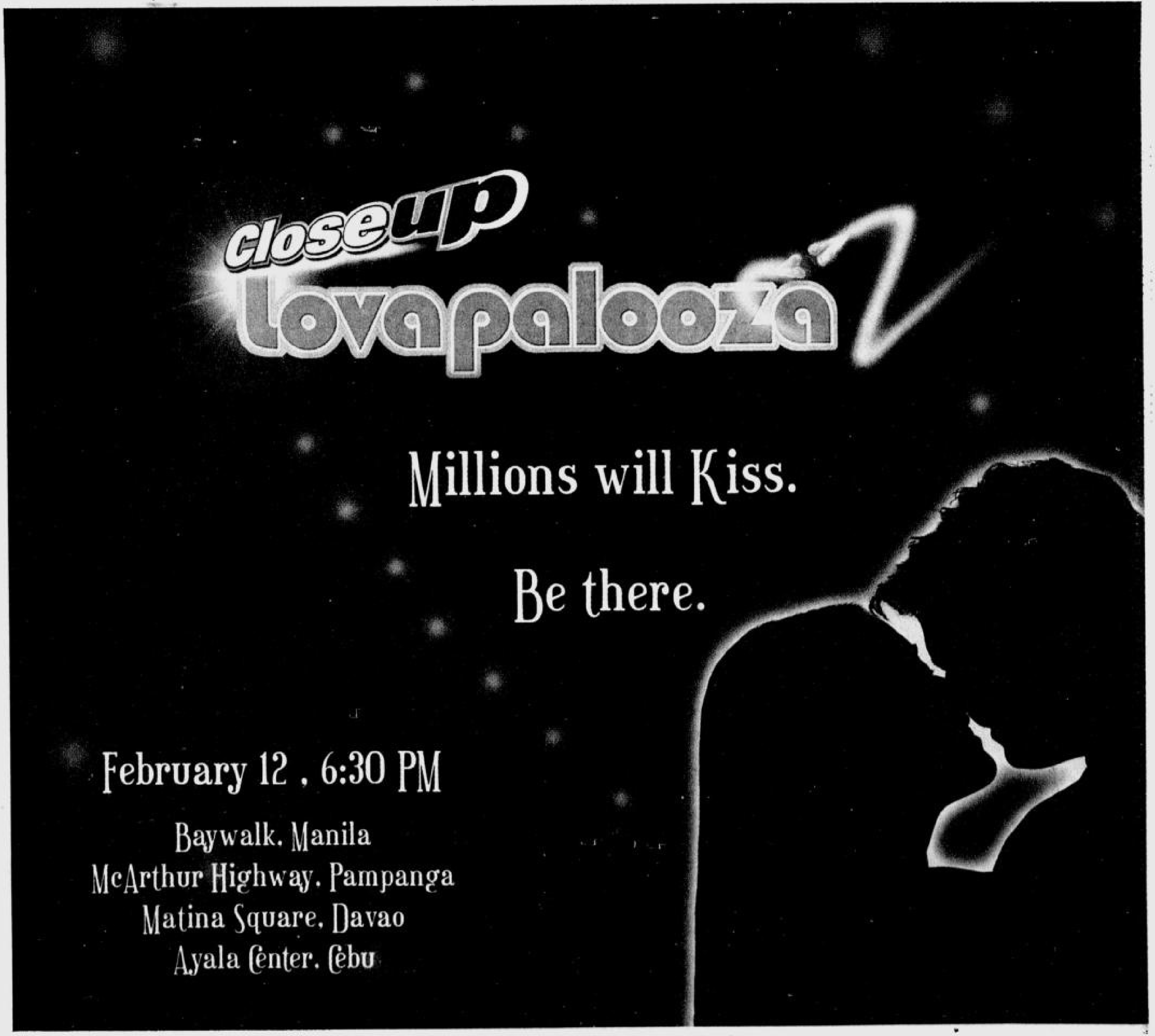
Other Close Up model-alumni include Vicky Morales, Bea Zubiri, Carmen Delgado, Bea and Pilar Valdez, Raya Roa, Raffy Ladao, Cai Rodriguez and Mike Vaca.

Close Up's more recent set endorsers are Heart Evangelista, John Prats, Luis Manzano, Onemig Bondoc, Rafael Rosel, Maike Evers, Brad Turvey, Stephanie Kienle, Alexis Alunan, Stephanie Zubiri, Karel Marquez, JC Gonzales, Paolo Trillo, Leandro Munoz, Joanna Dizon, Stephanie Hagedorn, Paolo Abrera, Derek Ramsey, Ed Feist, BJ Palanca, TJ Trinidad and Kelly Misa.

The newest member of the "model family" is Jimmy "The Mouth" Garcia.

Last year, Close Up brought romance to another level with "Lovapalooza," in which hundreds of couples kissed on Roxas Blvd. in a bid to land in the Guinness Book of World Records. This year, "Lovapalooza II" is targeting to outdo that record.

"Close Up Lovapalooza II" is produced by Apogee Productions.



closeup
lovapalooza 2

Millions will Kiss.

Be there.

February 12 . 6:30 PM

Baywalk. Manila
McArthur Highway. Pampanga
Matina Square. Davao
Ayala Center. Cebu

LAST year's Close Up Lovapalooza saw over 5,000 couples kissing at the stroke of midnight.

A million kisses

'Lovapalooza' returns on Feb. 12 with more kissing couples

PUCKER up for Close Up's "Lovapalooza II" on Feb 12, which will be held simultaneously at Baywalk Manila and in Davao, Cebu, and Angeles City.

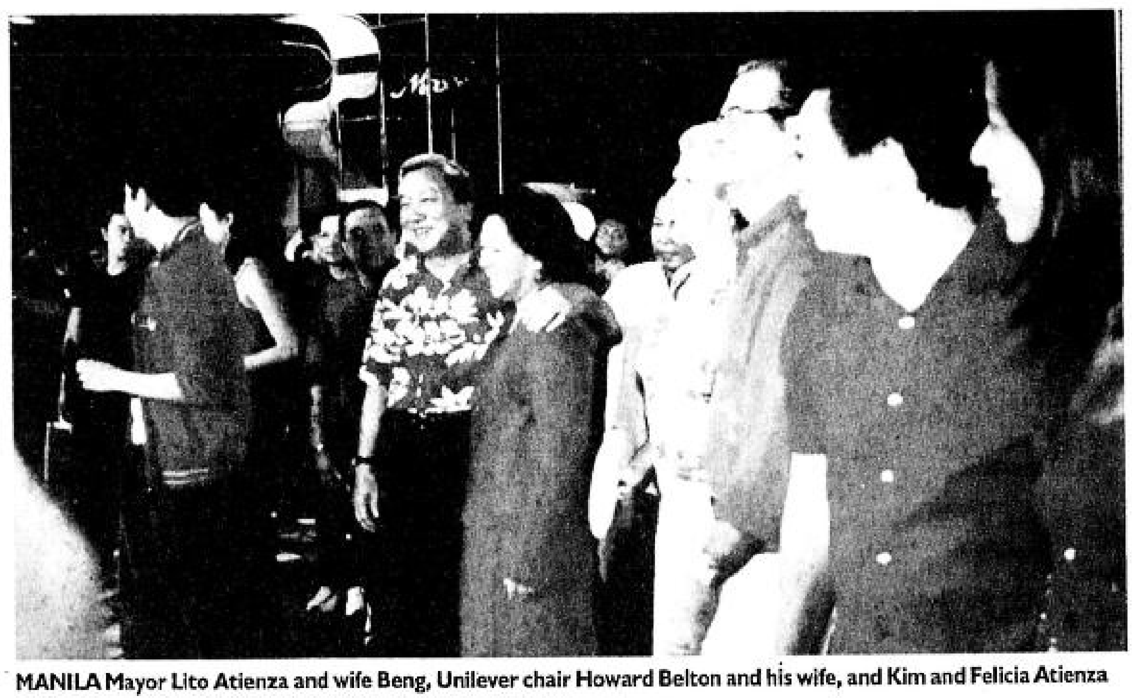
The first Lovaplooza gathered 5,327 kissing couples on Valentine's eve 2004, all kissing at the same time for 10 seconds. They formed a kissing stretch along Roxas Blvd, from the Manila Yacht Club to T.M. Kalaw St. The event made it to the Guinness Book of Records under the category of Most Couples Kissing Simultaneously. It beat Chile's 4,445 kissing-couples record of 2003.

This year, "Lovapalooza II" intends to be better. It is expected to draw a much bigger crowd of smoochers nationwide.

The goal? A million kisses—across Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao.

The romantic evening will be complemented by a musical extravaganza to be provided by Bamboo, Rivermaya, Parokya ni Edgar, Kyla, Paolo Santos, Jimmy Bondoc, Nina, Nyoy Volante and Christian Bautista.

LAST year's kissing event broke all records.



MANILA Mayor Lito Atienza and wife Beng, Unilever chair Howard Belton and his wife, and Kim and Felicia Atienza were among the kissing couples.

All-around mouth care

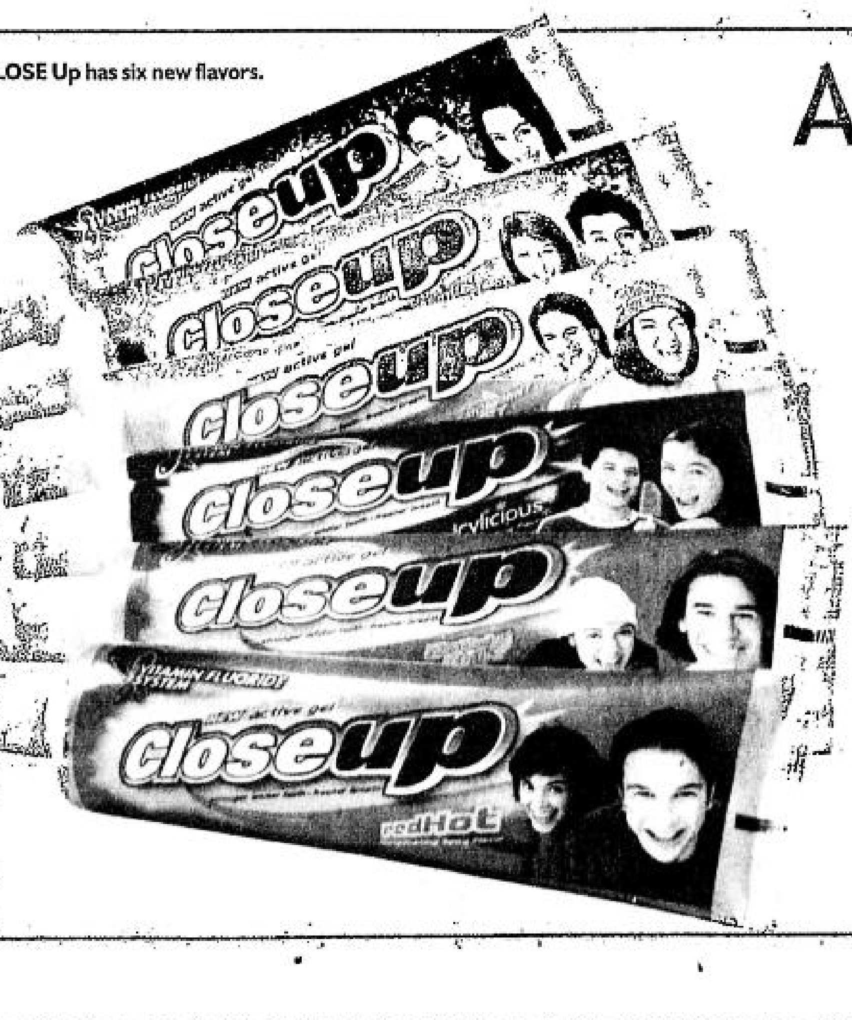
Close Up sports a new look and six new flavors, providing enhanced mouth hygiene

RECOMMENDED by the Philippine Dental Association, Close Up provides "complete mouth fitness."

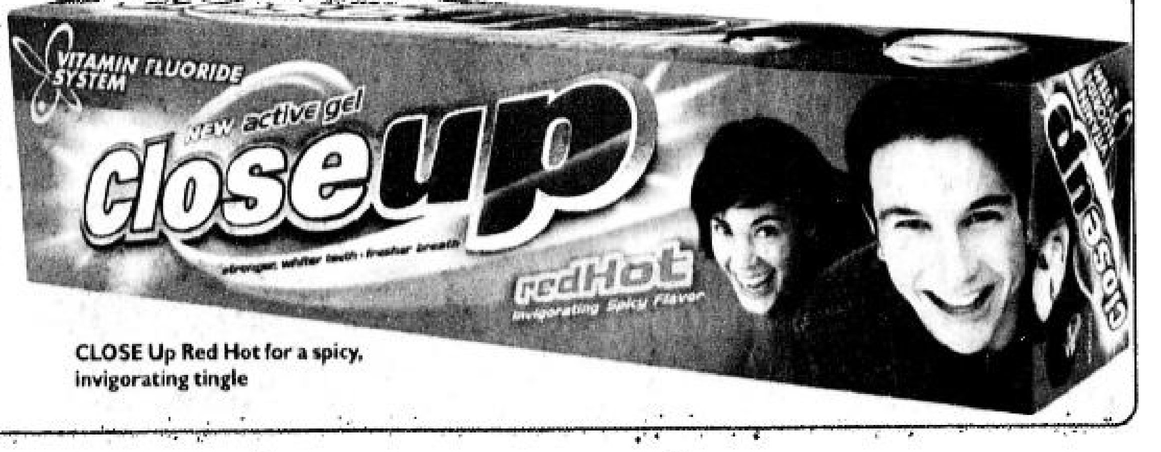
Complete mouth fitness is all-around care for your mouth, giving you strong teeth and gums. It also means the whitest teeth and the freshest breath.

Mouth hygiene is provided though Close-Up's new vitamin fluoride system, which has enhanced microwhiteners and germ-killing mouthwash.

Close Up has six new flavors: Red Hot for a spicy, invigorating tingle; Menthol Chill for a minty wave of freshness; Icylicious Blue for light soothing coolness; Crystal, which has soft blue granules for deep cleansing; and Eucalyptus Buzz for intense, lingering shot of cool.

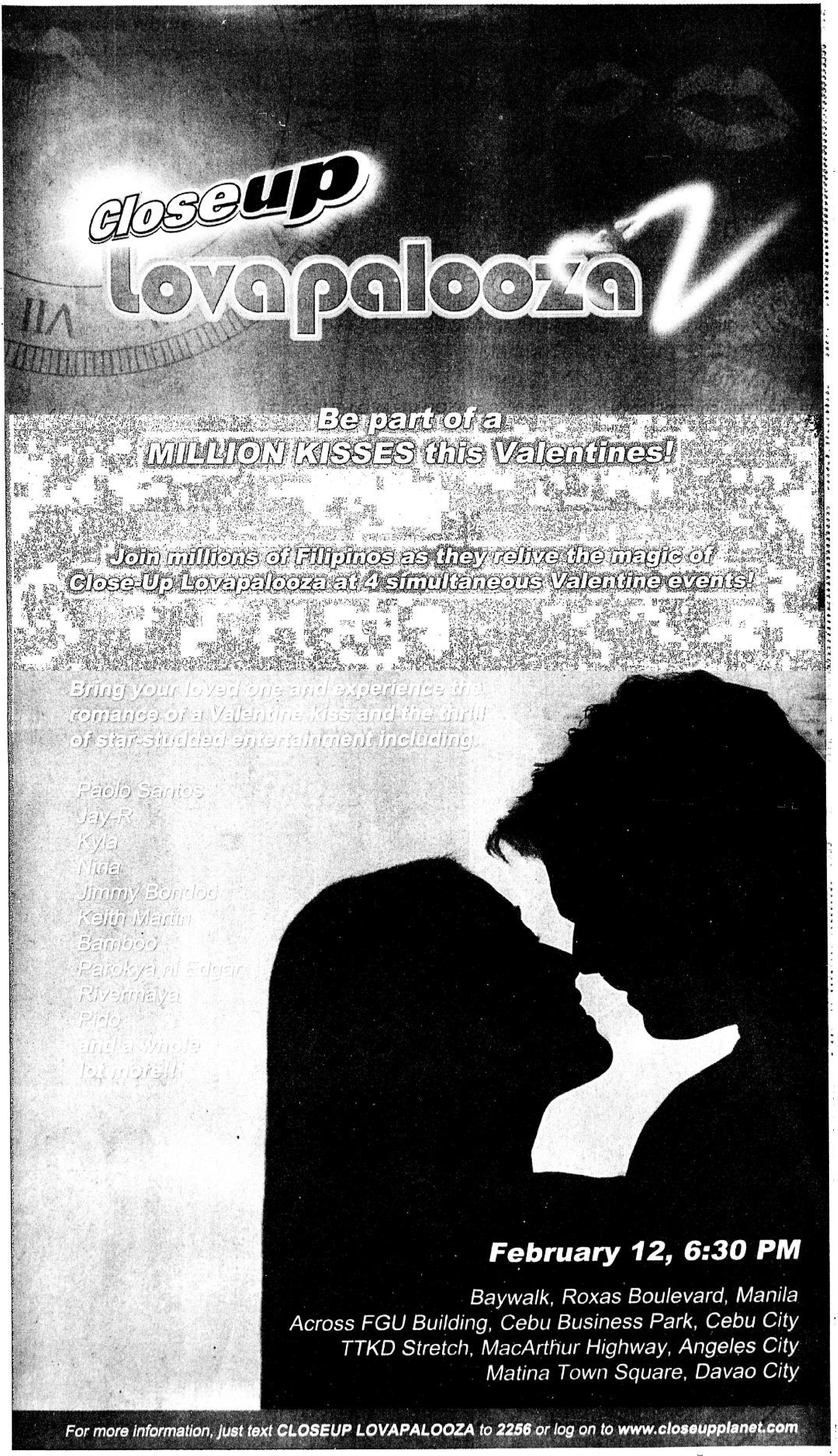


CLOSE Up has six new flavors.



VITAMIN FLUORIDE SYSTEM
new active gel
closeup
stronger whiter teeth · fresher breath
redHot
invigorating Spicy Flavor

CLOSE Up Red Hot for a spicy, invigorating tingle



closeup

lovapalooza 2

Be part of a
MILLION KISSES this Valentines!

Join millions of Filipinos as they relive the magic of
Close-Up Lovapalooza at 4 simultaneous Valentine events!

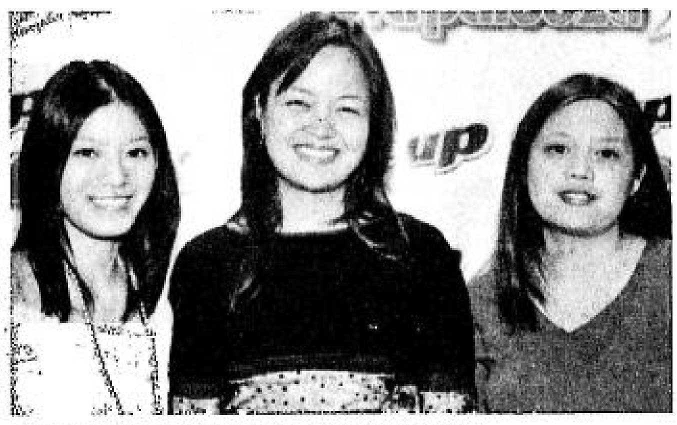
Bring your loved one and experience the
romance of a Valentine kiss and the thrill
of star-studded entertainment including:

Paolo Santos
Jay-R
Kyla
Nina
Jimmy Bondoc
Keith Martin
Bamboo
Parokya ni Edgar
Rivermaya
Pido
and a whole
lot more!!

February 12, 6:30 PM

Baywalk, Roxas Boulevard, Manila
Across FGU Building, Cebu Business Park, Cebu City
TTKD Stretch, MacArthur Highway, Angeles City
Matina Town Square, Davao City

For more information, just text **CLOSEUP LOVAPALOOZA** to **2256** or log on to **www.closeupplanet.com**



MIA Fuentes, Anna Fernandez and Tish Condeno

WANDA Louwallien, Cris Albert and Anna Bitong

UNILEVER CEO Howard Belton with Loren Legarda-Leviste, Manila Mayor Lito Atienza and wife Beng

Kissfest launched across the land of smiles

'Lovapalooza II' saw simultaneous launchings in Makati, Manila, Cebu, Davao and Pampanga

CLOSE Up's many faces through the years gathered recently at The Peninsula Manila and four other points across the Philippines in a reunion of the best smiles.

The events were the run-up to "Lovapalooza II" party on Feb. 12, which intends to gather thousands of couples to gather and kiss one another at a single appointed time.

The upper lobby of the Peninsula was transformed into a romantic haven accented with red roses and willowy white drapes. There was overflowing champagne. Guests were serenaded by the Manila Philharmonic Orchestra, which played dreamy hymns from past Close Up commercials.

Ushers led the guests to the Conservatory, where Close Up model Luis Manzano welcomed everyone. He was joined by pretty Iya Villania and the boyish John Prats in emceeing the ceremonies.

In his welcome remarks, Unilever's marketing director Noel Lorenzana relived the success of last year's Lovapalooza, which saw over 5,000 couples kissing.

His talk was followed by a video presentation showing the countless Close Up models through the years.

In cooperation with the City of Cebu and Mayor Tommy Angeles, "Lovapalooza II" was launched at the FGU Building in the Cebu Business Park.

Hosting the show were Paolo Trillo and Geneva Cruz, and Cheska Garcia and Doug Kramer.

Musical performers included Keith Martin, Jay-R, Dice and K9, Arnee Hidalgo, Jeffrey Hidalgo, Krook & Jojo, Mixed Dream, Stage Crew, Catski Band and Entwined Band.

"Lovapalooza II" went farther south to Davao.

It was launched at the Matina Town Square with some assistance from Mayor Rodrigo Duterte.

Hosting the Davao launch were Close Up models Rafael Rosel and Wanwan Reyes, and Marco Alcaraz and Angelica Panganiban.

Performances were rendered by Paolo Santos, Parokya Ni Edgar, Albert de Pano, Cynthia Alexander, Cookie Chua with Mike Villegas, Gary Granada, Hourglass, Joey Ayala, Noel Cabangon, Pido, Ria M & Paolo, Ryan Regino, and Parliament Band.

There was also a Central Luzon launch. At Balibago, Pampanga, Angeles City Mayor Carmelo Lazatin welcomed "Lovapalooza II."

Hosting the colorful event were Aliya Parcs and Mark San Diego, Karel Marquez and Raymond Gutierrez, and Danica Sotto and Mark Escueta.

Performers included Nina, Jimmy Bondoc, Rivermaya, 7 Shots of Wisdom, Empower Band, Thor with Soul Ave Band, and U-Turn.

The other Manila launch was in Baywalk, where it all started. Mayor Lito Atienza graced the shindig and expressed his full support.

Real-life sweethearts Drew Arellano and Iya Villania were joined by John Prats and Bianca King, and Kim and Fely Atienza in leading the kissing party.

Entertainment was provided by Anna Fegi, Bamboo, Bituin Escalante, Christian Bautista, Dingdong Avanzado, Jessa Zaragoza, Kyla, Luke Mijares, Rachel Anne Go, Parliament Synd, Silk, Episode, Soul Glass, and the Manila Philharmonic Orchestra.

Christian Bautista and Luke Mijares particularly delighted the crowd with their performances.

Later, former Close Up models went onstage to toast to the success of "Lovapalooza II." They included Brad Turvey, Cheska Diaz, Plinky Recto, Robin da Roza, Cathy da Roza, William Thio, Maikee Evers, Kate Gomez, Dennis Trillo, Paolo Villavicencio, JC Gonzales, Cris Albert, Cai Araneta, Alexi Alunan, Miross, Russel C. Mon, and former Senator Loren Legarda-Leviste.

Unilever chair and CEO Howard Belton and Mayor Atienza led the toast.

KIM and Fely Atienza

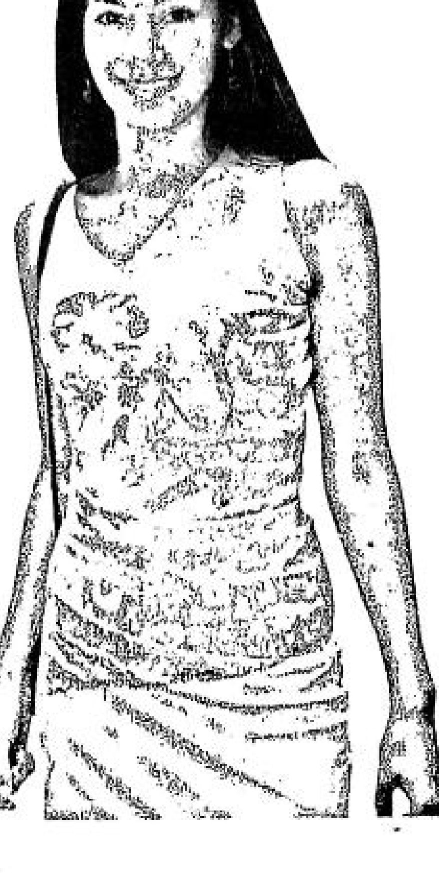
ROBIN da Roza and Rhea Mangaccat

UNILEVER'S Noel Lorenzana

WANWAN Reyes and Rafael Rosel

GILBERT Simpao

GEM Padilla and Patti Betita



MAIKE Evers

APOGEE'S Albert Almendralejo and Plinky Recto

MARCO Alcaraz, Raymond Gutierrez, John Prats and Bianca King

MIA Fuentes, Anna Fernandez and Tish Condeno

WANDA Louwallien, Cris Albert and Anna Bitong

UNILEVER CEO Howard Belton with Loren Legarda-Leviste, Manila Mayor Lito Atienza and wife Beng

Kissfest launched across the land of smiles

'Lovapalooza II' saw simultaneous launchings in Makati, Manila, Cebu, Davao and Pampanga

CLOSE Up's many faces through the years gathered recently at The Peninsula Manila and four other points across the Philippines in a reunion of the best smiles.

The events were the run-up to "Lovapalooza II" party on Feb. 12, which intends to gather thousands of couples to gather and kiss one another at a single appointed time.

The upper lobby of the Peninsula was transformed into a romantic haven accented with red roses and willowy white drapes. There was overflowing champagne. Guests were serenaded by the Manila Philharmonic Orchestra, which played dreamy hymns from past Close Up commercials.

Ushers led the guests to the Conservatory, where Close Up model Luis Manzano welcomed everyone. He was joined by pretty Iya Villania and the boyish John Prats in emceeing the ceremonies.

In his welcome remarks, Unilever's marketing director Noel Lorenzana relived the success of last year's Lovapalooza, which saw over 5,000 couples kissing.

His talk was followed by a video presentation showing the countless Close Up models through the years.

In cooperation with the City of Cebu and Mayor Tommy Angeles, "Lovapalooza II" was launched at the FGU Building in the Cebu Business Park.

Hosting the show were Paolo Trillo and Geneva Cruz, and Cheska Garcia and Doug Kramer.

Musical performers included Keith Martin, Jay-R, Dice and K9, Arnee Hidalgo, Jeffrey Hidalgo, Krook & Jojo, Mixed Dream, Stage Crew, Catski Band and Entwined Band.

"Lovapalooza II" went farther south to Davao.

It was launched at the Matina Town Square with some assistance from Mayor Rodrigo Duterte.

Hosting the Davao launch were Close Up models Rafael Rosel and Wanwan Reyes, and Marco Alcaraz and Angelica Panganiban.

Performances were rendered by Paolo Santos, Parokya Ni Edgar, Albert de Pano, Cynthia Alexander, Cookie Chua with Mike Villegas, Gary Granada, Hourglass, Joey Ayala, Noel Cabangon, Pido, Ria M & Paolo, Ryan Regino, and Parliament Band.

There was also a Central Luzon launch. At Balibago, Pampanga, Angeles City Mayor Carmelo Lazatin welcomed "Lovapalooza II."

Hosting the colorful event were Aliya Parcs and Mark San Diego, Karel Marquez and Raymond Gutierrez, and Danica Sotto and Mark Escueta.

Performers included Nina, Jimmy Bondoc, Rivermaya, 7 Shots of Wisdom, Empower Band, Thor with Soul Ave Band, and U-Turn.

The other Manila launch was in Baywalk, where it all started. Mayor Lito Atienza graced the shindig and expressed his full support.

Real-life sweethearts Drew Arellano and Iya Villania were joined by John Prats and Bianca King, and Kim and Fely Atienza in leading the kissing party.

Entertainment was provided by Anna Fegi, Bamboo, Bituin Escalante, Christian Bautista, Dingdong Avanzado, Jessa Zaragoza, Kyla, Luke Mijares, Rachel Anne Go, Parliament Synd, Silk, Episode, Soul Glass, and the Manila Philharmonic Orchestra.

Christian Bautista and Luke Mijares particularly delighted the crowd with their performances.

Later, former Close Up models went onstage to toast to the success of "Lovapalooza II." They included Brad Turvey, Cheska Diaz, Plinky Recto, Robin da Roza, Cathy da Roza, William Thio, Maikee Evers, Kate Gomez, Dennis Trillo, Paolo Villavicencio, JC Gonzales, Cris Albert, Cai Araneta, Alexi Alunan, Miross, Russel C. Mon, and former Senator Loren Legarda-Leviste.

Unilever chair and CEO Howard Belton and Mayor Atienza led the toast.

ROBIN da Roza and Rhea Mangaccat

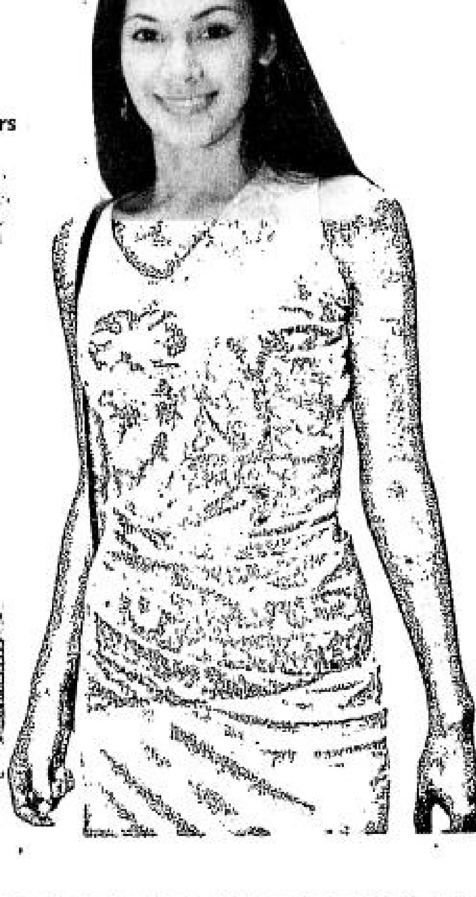
WANWAN Reyes and Rafael Rosel

UNILEVER'S Noel Lorenzana

GILBERT Simpao

KIM and Fely Atienza

GEM Padilla and Patti Betita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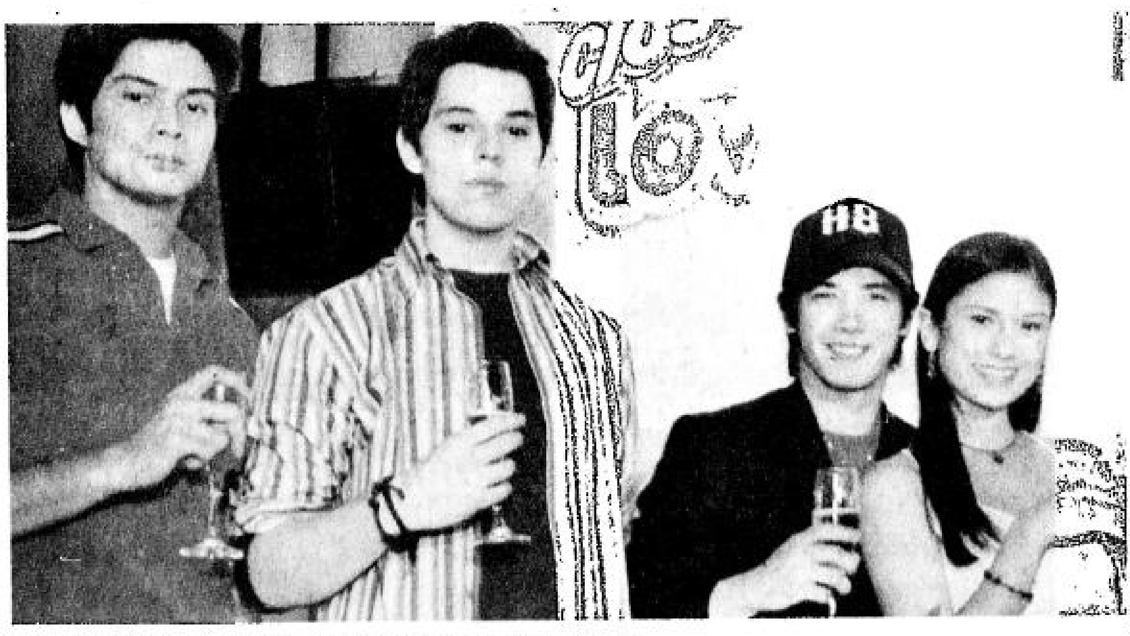
MARCO Alcaraz, Raymond Gutierrez, John Prats and Bianca King

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Mark Herras danced his way away from a fastfood life

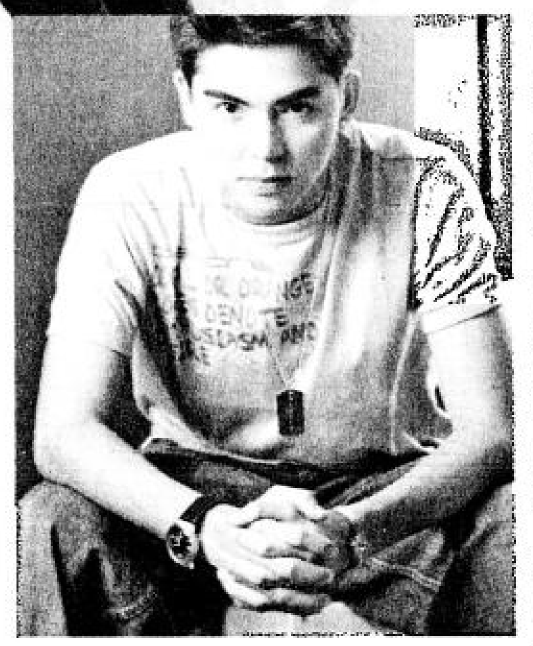
By Larry Leviste
Contributor

IT WAS the last day for auditions for last year's edition of GMA 7's talent search, "StarStruck," and Mark Herras was the last to audition, according to his uncle, Hermie Santos.

"I asked him what talent he would show," said Uncle Hermie, who raised Mark since the boy was 3, and who always accompanies him to his show biz-related appointments, including this INQUIRER Entertainment shoot. "He said he would dance. He said that if he failed the audition, he would apply for a fastfood job."

But destiny had other plans for Mark. Today he can earn as much as P80,000 for singing a song and P120,000 for showing off those fantastic moves as a dancer. He has also just signed up as endorser of UniSilver, a jewelry line.

During this shoot, Mark and his uncle revealed that the Ultimate StarStruck Survivor garnered 3 million votes as Yes Magazine's Most Popular Teen Idol this month.



Mark had come from the shooting of GMA Films' "Let the Love Begin," the outfit's pre-Valentine offering starring Richard Guttierez, Angel Locsin and Mark's on- and off-screen love, Jennylyn Mercado.

"My parents separated when I was an infant," Mark said. "My mom's younger brother [Uncle Hermie] asked if he could raise me. So far he's been the best surrogate parent. I have grown up a decent God-fearing straight man."

"Mark is very honest and vocal about this virtue," said Uncle Hermie. "He calls me Papim as a term of endearment. I taught him to stay humble and realize this is an important opportunity that God has bestowed on him. He is very charming. He is also very observant and a good listener.

"While he was growing up, Mark was made to be very close to his parents," the uncle added. "He went to the Regina Coeli School and then La Salle Dasmariñas.

"That kid practically has no time to rest. But he does not complain. His gang is the StarStruck gang. His best friend is Rainier Castillo."

The uncle continued to enumerate Mark Herras factoids: He wears only clothes by Bizaare and Retazzo by Bong Lazo. But his biggest weakness is buying shoes.

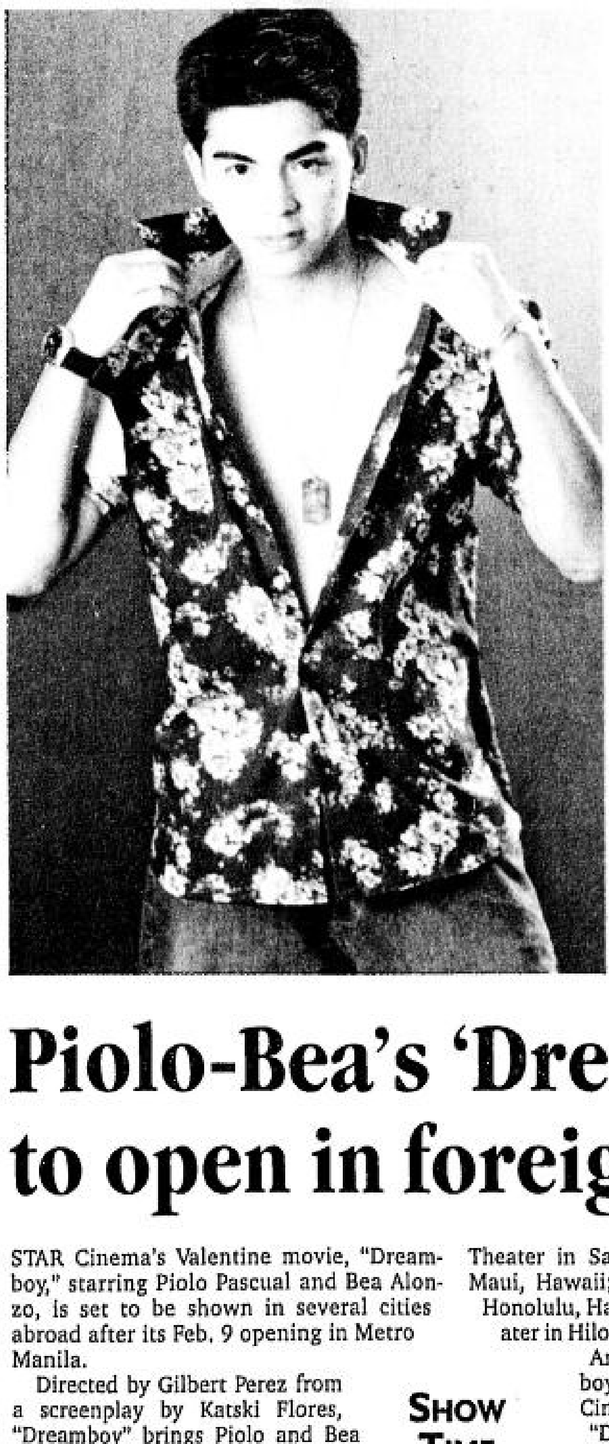
Mark was born on Dec. 18, 1986, and has an elder brother. He is a mainstay on GMA's "SOP," "Joyride" and "Forever in My Heart."

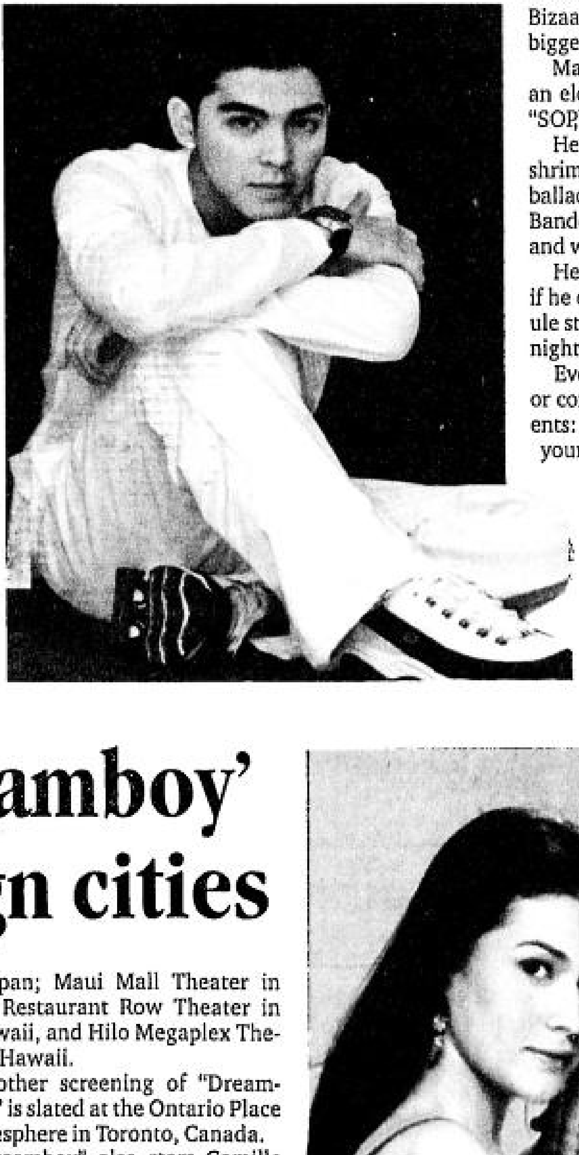
He loves any kind of *sinigang*, especially shrimp and beef. He likes R&B, hip hop and ballads, Catherine Zeta-Jones and Antonio Banderas. He has a Shih Tzu named Rainbow and wears boxer shorts to sleep.

He loves to play basketball and badminton if he ever gets the time. His killer daily schedule starts at 7 a.m. and finishes well past midnight.

Eventually Mark would like to be an action or comedy star. The best advice from his parents: Don't ever let your head grow too big for your hat. In short, stay humble.

He kissed his first girl in Grade 6. He is turned on by sweet, charming girls; turned off by what he calls *maarte* girls and insincere people.





STYLING AND DIRECTION: LARRY LEVISTE
PHOTOS BY ROMY HOMILLADA
HAIR AND MAKE-UP: DIERIE ORTIZ AND ELMER CATUNGAL
MENSWEAR BY BIZAARE AND RETAZZO BY BONG LAZO AT FESTIVAL MALL, ALABANG
SHOES BY SKECHERS
GROOMING BY FLAWLESS AND DR. VICKY BELO

Piolo-Bea's 'Dreamboy' to open in foreign cities

SHOW TIME

STAR Cinema's Valentine movie, "Dreamboy," starring Piolo Pascual and Bea Alonzo, is set to be shown in several cities abroad after its Feb. 9 opening in Metro Manila.

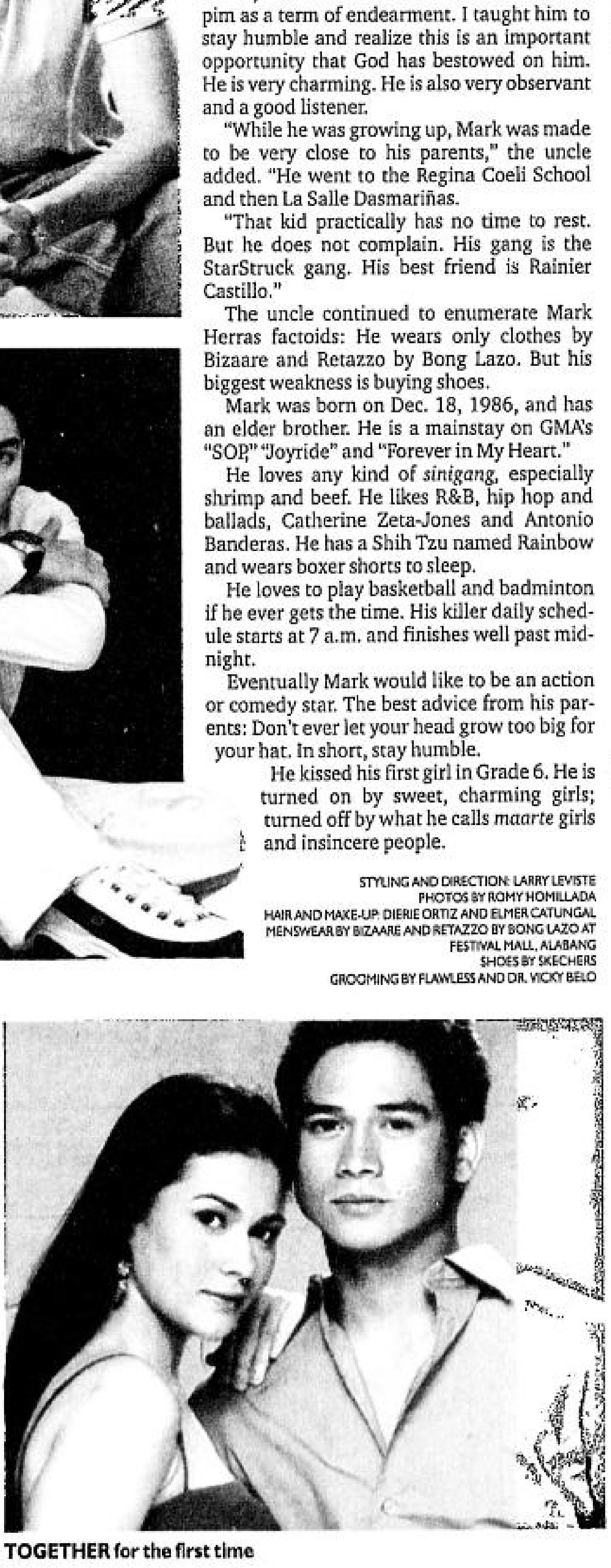
Directed by Gilbert Perez from a screenplay by Katski Flores, "Dreamboy" brings Piolo and Bea together for the first time. Piolo plays the dream guy of Bea who finds to her surprise that dreams do come true.

On Feb. 18, "Dreamboy" will open at the Micronesia Mall Cinema in Guam. Soon after, it will be shown at the Saipan Hollywood Theater in Saipan; Maui Mall Theater in Maui, Hawaii; Restaurant Row Theater in Honolulu, Hawaii, and Hilo Megaplex Theater in Hilo, Hawaii.

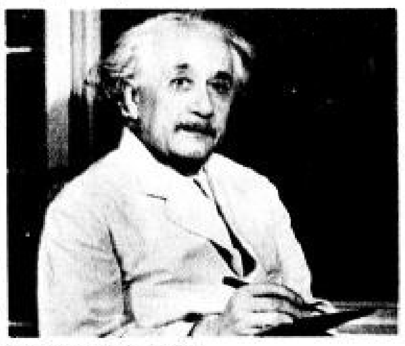
Another screening of "Dreamboy" is slated at the Ontario Place Cinesphere in Toronto, Canada.

"Dreamboy" also stars Camille Prats, Miko Palanca and AJ Dee.

Other Star Cinema movies that were shown abroad include "Anak," starring Vilma Santos and Claudine Barretto; "Milan," Piolo and Claudine, and, more recently, "Feng Shui," with Kris Aquino.



TOGETHER for the first time



RESPECT is in order

Einstein, Hollywood celebrity

JERUSALEM—The dog-droopy eyes, spray of grey hair and rumpled suits may not have set many hearts aflutter, but nowadays Albert Einstein's image is guarded as jealously as that of the hottest Hollywood celebrity.

From entertainment moguls to educational innovators, anyone wanting to use a picture of the 20th century's most celebrated scientist must get permission from the Israeli university he helped found and which owns all the rights to his legacy.

"We have one objective—perpetuating Einstein's memory with the proper dignity," said Professor Hanoch Gutfreund, a former president of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem who oversees a 55,000-item archive and trust willed by the German-born physicist.

With the world marking 100 years since Einstein published three seminal research papers—including his theory of special relativity—and changed scientific thinking about the universe forever, the campus expects a deluge of commercial applications to reproduce his by now iconic image.

Pricey permit

Approval can prove pricey. According to media reports, director Steven Spielberg paid the university $600,000 to create an Einstein holograph for his 2001 science-fiction film "A.I."

Gutfreund estimated the trust had earned $10 million for campus causes over the past 15 years, but said posterity, not royalties, was the main criterion in assessing each request.

A bid by racy pop-diva Madonna to incorporate Einstein's image in one of her concert performances failed.

"It was just inappropriate," Gutfreund said without elaborating.

When the US Defense Department asked to use an Einstein portrait for a military project, the university turned it down citing the scientist's advocacy of conflict resolution, nuclear arms controls and human rights.

This range of passions, Gutfreund said, accounts for the wide interest Einstein inspires 50 years after his death.

"In many ways, he symbolized how many of us remember the 20th century—the whirlwind scientific advances, the intense social and political activism," Gutfreund said.

Nobel Prize

A Zionist, Einstein spoke at the founding of the Hebrew University in 1923 and served on its first board of governors.

It was quite a leap for a genius who had muddled through the Polytechnic School in Zurich and, failing to find a job in a university, worked for the Swiss Patent Office and spent his spare time working on theoretical physics problems.

In 1905, at the age of just 26, Einstein published landmark papers on Brownian motion, special relativity and the photoelectric effect. His latter work earned him a Nobel Prize in 1921.

"Einstein was something of an overnight success, which could also go a long way to explaining his appeal. Everyone likes that sort of 'star is born' story," Gutfreund said.

In 1933 he escaped the persecution of Jews by Nazi Germany by accepting a position at Princeton University in the United States, where he spent the rest of his life.

"We remember [him] now mainly as an older man, the benign and unkempt sage on a poster and T-shirt," said Martin Rees, a cosmology and astrophysics professor at Cambridge University.

"That's surprising because his great work was well over by the time he was 40."

Despite Einstein's support for Israel, he turned down an offer to take the ceremonial presidency in 1952, saying he felt he was too old and lacked the aptitude and experience to deal with people and carry out official duties.

The Hebrew University archive is open, by special arrangement, to visitors who want to leaf through Einstein's research notes and letters. Much of the material is available for viewing at the Web site www.albert-einstein.org. *Reuters*

America back in Manila

THE ICONIC rock band America, known for hits like "A Horse With No Name," "Tin Man," "Ventura Highway," "You Can Do Magic," among many others, will be in Manila for three nights of a Valentine show called "America Greatest Hits: Live at the NBC Tent."

Dewey Bunnell and Gerry Beckley will perform on Feb. 12, 13 and 14, starting at 7:30 p.m., at the NBC Tent in Fort Bonifacio Global City in Makati. They will be treating their Filipino followers and new fans to three nights of nostalgic light rock hits from their more than three decades of reign that started in early '70s.

America will sing all its greatest hits like "A Horse With No Name," "I Need You," "Ventura Highway," "Tin Man," "Lonely People," "Sister Golden Hair," "You Can Do Magic," "Sandman," "The Border," "All My Life," "Riverside," "Daisy Jane," "Muskrat Love," "Woman Tonight," "Only in Your Heart," "California Dreaming," "Hangover," "Never Be Lonely," and many other top 40 hits, according to the concert producers, Asian Events.

Tickets to the show are P3,500, P2,500 and P1,500 and are available at all Ticketworld outlets. For inquiries, call 819-9999.

AMERICA—Dewey Bunnell and Gerry Beckley—will sing their greatest hits for three nights.

Will this be Marty's year, or...

From page 4

"Morgan Freeman was amazing. Don Cheadle was amazing. Jamie Foxx had a breakout year with these two performances," O'Neil said. "It's not based on people saying, 'Oh, we're overdue to acknowledge African-American artists.' These are really powerful, performance-driven surges we're seeing."

While ethnic diversity may be a healthy thing for the awards, the wide-open range of contenders is not necessarily a good thing for Oscar organizers, who have been troubled by a downward trend in the ceremony's TV ratings.

Recent history suggests that more people tune in to the Oscars when there is a box-office behemoth favored to win, such as with 1997's $600 million blockbuster "Titanic," the year the awards drew their biggest audience ever—55.2 million viewers.

The Oscars reversed their ratings slide last year, when the $377 million smash "The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King" dominated. This time, all the likely Best Picture nominees are well below the $100 million mark in domestic revenues. *AP*

The Force will be with you again...

From page 4

Marvel Comics' saga of a superhero family.

Other big summer-season releases include Burton's "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory," with Depp in an update of 1971's "Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory"; Adam Sandler and Chris Rock's "The Longest Yard," a remake of the 1974 prison football tale; "Mr. and Mrs. Smith," starring Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie as husband-and-wife assassins; "Madagascar," featuring the voices of Ben Stiller and Chris Rock in the story of zoo animals cut loose in the wild; and "The Bad News Bears," a remake of the '76 comedy "The Bad News Bears" with Billy Bob Thornton as an ex-ballplayer coaching misfit Little Leaguers.

Also, "Fun With Dick and Jane," starring Jim Carrey and Tea Leoni in a new version of the 1977 romp about an upscale couple who take to robbery; "Kingdom of Heaven," featuring Orlando Bloom in Ridley Scott's epic set in the Middle East during the Crusades era; Jennifer Lopez's "Monster-in-Law," a comedy about a woman battling back against her fiance's scornful mom (Jane Fonda); "The. Dukes of Hazzard," with Johnny Knoxville, Seann William Scott, Jessica Simpson and Burt Reynolds in a big-screen take on TV's good old boys; and "Kicking & Screaming," starring Will Ferrell as a father coaching his son's soccer team to a showdown against his own dad, Robert Duvall, an opposing coach with a win-at-any-cost mentality.

Woody Allen, too

Ferrell also joins Woody Allen's latest romantic ensemble in the spring release "Melinda and Melinda"; Nicole Kidman in the summer comedy "Bewitched," adapted from the TV sitcom about a mortal man who marries a witch; and Nathan Lane and Matthew Broderick for the holiday-season remake of Mel Brooks' theatrical farce "The Producers."

Among other fall and holiday flicks: "Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire," with Daniel Radcliffe returning for the fourth chapter in J.K. Rowling's saga. *AP*

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10 MEET THE FOCKERS

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5 SALSA
6 UNO
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8 WHITE NOISE

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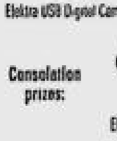
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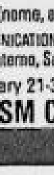
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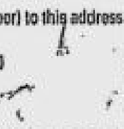
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Crowded January nights at Suburbia

XAX MUSIC Entertainment, the new company behind Suburbia Bar Manila on Adriatico Street in Malate, Manila, fires an opening salvo this January.

Chillworx plays back-to-back with SPI band in the Monday slots.

Squib Cake and Big Nite Out take center stage every Tuesday. Party people are guaranteed sure-fire entertainment with Livewire every Wednesday. Classified is paired with 7th Soul featuring Gail Blanco every Thursday.

An explosive weekend combination awaits you with Escape and Zyncxation on Fridays.

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BLADE TRINITY R13 12:50,3:10 MEET THE FOCKERS PG13 5:10,7:35,10:00	WHITE NOISE PG13 12:50,3:10,5:30,7:50,10:10	MEET THE FOCKERS PG13 1:00,3:25,5:50,8:15,10:40

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OCEAN'S TWELVE
1:30 4:10 6:50 9:30

KUNG FU HUSTLE
12:10 2:35 4:55 7:15 9:35

BLADE : TRINITY
12:05 2:25 4:45 7:05 9:25

ALI MALL CINEMAS

1	Dolby	MEET THE FOCKERS 1:05 3:25 5:45 8:05
2	SDDS	WHITE NOISE 12:35 3:10 5:45 8:20
3	dts	BLADE: TRINITY 11:10 1:20 3:40 6:00 8:20
4	Dolby	UNO 1:10 3:35 6:00 8:25
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3	KUNG FU HUSTLE 11:00, 1:25, 3:50 6:15, 8:40, 11:00 PG-13
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② MEET THE FOCKERS
FS 12:00PM, 2:30PM, 5:00PM, 7:30PM, LMF 10:00PM (PG - 13)

③ WHITE NOISE
FS 12:20PM, 2:45PM, 5:10PM, 7:35PM, LMF 10:00PM (PG-13)

④ OCEAN'S TWELVE
12:40PM, 5:40PM, 10:40PM (PG - 13)
BLADE TRINITY
10:20AM, 3:20PM, 8:20PM (R-13)

PREMIERE THEATRE KUNG FU HUSTLE
FS 12:20PM, 2:45PM, 5:10PM, 7:35PM, LMF 10:00PM (PG-13)
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1 MEET THE FOCKERS • THX 12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00	6 BLADE TRINITY 11:50 2:20 4:50 7:20 9:50
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3 WHITE NOISE 10:20 12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00	8 BATH HOUSE 12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00
4 KUNG FU HUSTLE 10:20 12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00	9 RAISE YOUR VOICE 12:50 3:10 5:30 7:50 10:00
5 OCEAN'S TWELVE 11:00 1:45 4:30 7:15 10:00	10 NATIONAL TREASURE 12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00

ERMITA

53C-7809 to 12

1 MEET THE FOCKERS	10:35 12:50 3:05 5:20 7:35 9:50
2 MAD HOUSE 11:00 1:10 3:20 5:30 7:40 9:50	5 BLADE TRINITY 10:10 12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 9:50
3 OCEAN'S TWELVE 11:10 1:50 4:30 7:10 9:50	6 RESERVE
4 WHITE NOISE 10:35 12:50 3:05 5:20 7:35 9:50	7 KUNG FU HUSTLE 10:30 12:45 3:00 5:15 7:30 9:45

METRO EAST

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1 TWO BROTHERS 10:40 12:45 2:50 4:55 7:00 9:10	5 MEET THE FOCKERS 11:20 1:40 4:00 6:20 8:30 10:30
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3 RAISE YOUR VOICE 11:00 1:00 3:00 5:00 7:00 9:00	7 KUNG FU HUSTLE 12:30 3:00 5:30 8:00 10:30
4 MAD HOUSE 10:50 12:50 2:50 4:50 6:50 9:00	8 WHITE NOISE 12.30 3:00 5.30 8.00 10:30

NOVALICHES

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1 MEET THE FOCKERS 10:20 12:50 3:20 5:50 8:25	5 KUNG FU HUSTLE 11:00 1:00 3:00 5:00 7:00 8:55
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3 RAISE YOUR VOICE 12:00 2:10 4:10 6:10 8:30	7 IN SEARCH OF AN IMPOTENT MAN 12:00 2:10 4:10 6:10 8:25
4 BLADE TRINITY 12:50 3:20 5:50 8:25	8 NATIONAL TREASURE 1:00 3:30 6:00 8:30

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1 HONEY 10:55 12:50 2:45 4:40 6:35 8:30	3 OCEAN'S TWELVE 10:50 1:15 3:40 6:05 8:30
2 SO...HAPPY TOGETHER 11:10 1:30 3:50 6:10 8:30	4 SUPERBABIES 11:20 1:10 3:00 4:50 6:40 8:30

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1 BLADE TRINITY 12:10 2:50 5:30 8:10	3 WHITE NOISE 10:55 1:25 3:55 6:25 8:55
2 MEET THE FOCKERS 12:40 3:20 6:00 8:40	4 KUNG FU HUSTLE 10:55 1:25 3:55 6:25 8:55

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The Force will be with you again; so will King Kong and Charlie, and Ashton Kutcher

LOS ANGELES—Steven Spielberg's tossing Tom Cruise to the Martians. Peter Jackson's handing Naomi Watts over to a 405-kilogram-plus gorilla. Tim Burton's turning Johnny Depp loose in Willy Wonka's candyland.

Yet in a year whose big Hollywood return engagements include the remakes "War of the Worlds," "King Kong" and "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory," aren't we all really looking forward to one last outing with George Lucas and the Skywalker clan?

The Force will be with you again in May as Lucas unveils "Star Wars: Episode III—Revenge of the Sith," the final chapter of his prequel series. Fans grumbled over the first two prequels. They scoffed at starting Anakin Skywalker's journey toward evil in childhood and ridiculed the young Jedi's mushy romantic babble.

Still, it's hard to imagine fans will not turn out to see Anakin take his final turn to the dark side and become the malevolent Darth Vader.

Along with "Revenge of the Sith," studios continue their onslaught of sequels, prequels, spinoffs, remakes and big-screen adaptations of TV shows throughout 2005.

Before "King Kong" runs off with her, Watts delivers "The Ring Two," her horror follow-up about a videotape whose viewers die within a week.

Other winter and spring follow-ups include "Miss Congeniality 2: Armed and Fabulous," with Sandra Bullock back as the stylish FBI agent; "Beauty Shop," Queen Latifah's spinoff of the "Barbershop" flicks; "Be Cool," John Travolta's sequel to the crime romp "Get Shorty," reuniting him with "Pulp Fiction" co-star Uma Thurman; and "XXX: State of the Union," with Ice Cube replacing Vin Diesel in the action franchise.

Remake lineup

On the remake lineup this winter and spring: "Assault on Precinct 13," with Ethan Hawke and Laurence Fishburne in a jailbreak thriller; "The Amityville Horror," with Ryan Reynolds and Melissa George in a fright film about a cursed house; "Guess Who," an update of "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner" starring Ashton Kutcher as an unwelcome prospective son-in-law and Bernie Mac as a disapproving father of the bride; and "The Honeymooners," a big-screen take on Jackie Gleason's TV sitcom, with Cedric the Entertainer as loudmouth bus driver Ralph Kramden.

Early releases

Other early-year releases include "Constantine," with Keanu Reeves and Rachel Weisz in a supernatural adventure based on DC Comics' "Hellblazer" series; the romantic comedy "Hitch," starring Will Smith as a matchmaker pursuing his own dream date; "The Interpreter," featuring Nicole Kidman and Sean Penn in a thriller centered on an assassination plot at the United Nations; "Hide and Seek," with Robert De Niro in the story of a girl (Dakota Fanning) with a menacing "imaginary friend"; and the animated tale "Robots," about a young inventor who moves to the big city to make a name for himself in a world populated by mechanical beings.

Directed by Chris Wedge ("Ice Age"), "Robots" features voice work by Ewan McGregor, Halle Berry, Robin Williams, Mel Brooks, Drew Carey and Greg Kinnear.

Summer sked

Along with "Revenge of the Sith," summer brings such sci-fi and action tales as "War of the Worlds," with Cruise in Spielberg's update of the Martian-invasion classic; "Batman Begins," starring Christian Bale in a look at the masked crime-fighter's early years; and "Fantastic Four," with Ioan Gruffudd and Jessica Alba in a big-screen adaptation of

THE FORCE/ 2

CHRIS Montez

GORDON Waller

DENNIS Yost

3 bring blasts from the past

SHOW TIME

DZRH DJ Steven O'Neal is far from through with nostalgia.

After presenting a series of successful '60s-themed shows last year, O'Neal—Danee Samonte in real life—is bringing three more singers from the the past for the new generation to appreciate.

They are Gordon Waller, the voice of the famed British duo Peter and Gordon, Dennis Yost of the Classics IV, and Chris Montez. All three were certified hitmakers in the '60s.

"It's the best of three worlds," said O'Neal. "Waller is British, Yost is American and Montez is Hispanic. Their music is distinct but we all loved it back in the '60s.

"Waller was in Manila with Peter for concerts at the Araneta Coliseum but hasn't been back in nearly 40 years. Yost and Montez are coming here for the first time."

The three artists have never appeared on the same bill on stage together before. O'Neal managed to line them up to present them as the "Golden Legends" for a Manila tour.

O'Neal said the warm reception and the big crowds that greeted Pat Upton of Spiral Starecase, the Searchers, the Friends of Distinction and Chad and Jeremy when he brought them all to Manila for concerts last year made it easier for him to convince the Golden Legends to fly over.

On Feb. 12, Waller, Yost and Montez will perform at the Aliw Theater. Then, Waller and Yost will sing at the Hard Rock Café in Makati on Feb. 13.

And on Feb. 14, Waller and Montez will headline a Valentine's Day show also at the Hard Rock Café.

"Waller will make you swoon with 'Woman,' 'True Love Ways,' 'I Go to Pieces,' 'To Know You is to Love You,' 'Soft as the Dawn,' '500 Miles,' 'Til There Was You' and 'Let It Be Me,'" said O'Neal.

"Yost is the voice of the Classics IV whose hits include 'Stormy,' 'Sunny,' 'Spooky' and 'Traces.'

Montez will make you want to dance with 'Call Me' and 'The More I See You.'"

Waller is also expected to sing other favorites such as "A World Without Love," "I Don't Want To See You Again" and "Nobody I Know."

Yost's other hits include "Everyday with You, Girl," "Nothing to Lose" and "Waves."

Montez is also known for "The Girl from Ipanema," "Day By Day," "La Bamba," "Time After Time," "Let's Dance" and "Our Day Will Come."

Ramon "RJ" Jacinto and the group called Area One, featuring John Lesaca, will open the Aliw show. Area One will also perform in the Hard Rock Café shows.

Tickets to the Aliw concert are available at Ticketworld outlets, Tower Record stores, National Bookstore, the Ayala malls and Robinsons at P800, P1,500, P2,500 and P3,200. For details, call 891-9999.

The Hard Rock shows will include dinner and wine. For reservations, call 893-4661 to 64.

Will this be Marty's year, or of more black actors?

MARTIN SCORSESE, who has never won, directs Leo DiCaprio in "The Aviator."

LOS ANGELES—Academy Awards contenders demurely say it's nice just to be nominated. In this wide-open Oscar season, just about any nominee could end up winning.

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences announces nominations for the 77th Oscars on Tuesday. While the likely field of contenders has been narrowed through previous Hollywood honors, a surprise or two could pop up, and few categories have clear-cut front-runners.

With its Golden Globe win for Best Drama and the potential to lead the way with the most Oscar nominations, Martin Scorsese's Howard Hughes saga "The Aviator" probably will establish itself as the nominal early Best Picture favorite.

Other film awards, including the Directors Guild of America prizes on Jan. 29 and the Screen Actors Guild honors on Feb. 5, will help sort out the leaders heading in to the Oscars on Feb. 27.

The uncertainty raises intriguing questions for movie fans who like to see Hollywood make a horse race of its awards season.

How will the probable Oscar rematch between Hilary Swank and Annette Bening play out? Will Jamie Foxx maintain the Best Actor momentum he has had since the Ray Charles film biography "Ray" premiered last fall? What are the prospects for 2004's critical darling, the road-trip romance "Sideways," among academy voters, who tend to favor sober drama over comedy?

And most important, can the savvy awards-marketing machine at Miramax, which has produced the best-picture winners "Chicago," "Shakespeare in Love" and "The English Patient," finally secure an Oscar for Scorsese?

Practical joke?

"It's been a weird practical joke that the man hasn't won," said Leonardo DiCaprio, who starred in Scorsese's "Gangs of New York," won the Golden Globe for dramatic actor as Hughes in "The Aviator," and is a likely best-actor nominee for the Oscars. "A cruel practical joke. It's like, you know, ridiculous. Enough said."

Scorsese, the man responsible for such films as "Raging Bull" and "GoodFellas," has been nominated for Best Director four times and Best Screenplay twice, while three of his films have scored Best Picture nominations. But he and his films have never won. His most recent contender, "Gangs of New York," had 10 nominations but was shut out in every category.

While "The Aviator" took the top dramatic prize at the Golden Globes, Scorsese lost the directing category to Clint Eastwood for the boxing saga "Million Dollar Baby." Yet Globe voters had just named Scorsese Best Director two years ago for "Gangs of New York," so they may have felt it was time for another nod to Eastwood, a previous Globe winner for "Unforgiven" and "Bird."

Eastwood and Scorsese both are nominated for the Directors Guild prize, which has a solid record at predicting what filmmaker will win the same honor come Oscar night. Only six times since 1949 has the guild winner failed to follow up with the best-director Oscar.

"Sideways" won Globes for best musical or comedy and for screenplay and is a likely contender in the best-picture race and other prominent Oscar categories. Though laced with dramatic moments, the film's comic tone will be a handicap at the Oscars, where lighter stories rarely prevail.

Acting awards

On the acting front, dramatic-actress Globe winner Swank for "Million Dollar Baby" faces another Oscar showdown with Bening, the Globe winner for musical or comedy for the show-business farce "Being Julia." Five years ago, underdog Swank in the low-budget "Boys Don't Cry" won the Globe dramatic honor and the Best Actress Oscar over Bening, who had been the front-runner for "American Beauty."

Other potential nominees include Paul Giamatti, Thomas Haden Church and Virginia Madsen for "Sideways"; Cate Blanchett as Katharine Hepburn in "The Aviator"; Johnny Depp as playwright J.M. Barrie in "Finding Neverland"; Liam Neeson and Laura Linney for "Kinsey," the film biography of sex researcher Alfred Kinsey; Imelda Staunton for the abortion drama "Vera Drake"; and Javier Bardem for "The Sea Inside," based on the real-life story of euthanasia lobbyist Ramon Sampedro.

Foxx could snare two Oscar nominations, as lead actor for the title role in "Ray" and supporting actor for the hit-man thriller "Collateral." His eerie emulation of Charles' movements, vocal cadences and understated slyness have established Foxx as the man to beat in the Best Actor category.

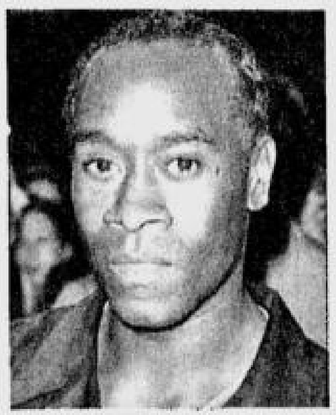
This could be a record year for black actors, who might grab four of the 20 acting nominations. Along with Foxx's prospective dual nominations, Don Cheadle is a likely nominee as lead actor in "Hotel Rwanda" and Morgan Freeman probably will be included in the supporting-actor field for "Million Dollar Baby."

Three times previously, black actors have earned three of the acting nominations, including the 2001 Oscars, when Denzel Washington of "Training Day" and Halle Berry of "Monster's Ball" won the lead-performer prizes.

Oscar analyst Tom O'Neil, author of the book "Movie Awards," said black actors have gradually gotten more opportunities to act in serious dramas.

WILL/ 2

JAMIE FOXX


DON CHEADLE

MORGAN FREEMAN

'Everybody Loves Raymond,' but not for more than 9 years

LOS ANGELES—After nine years of marital squabbles, meddling in-laws and sibling rivalry, television's No. 1 comedy, "Everybody Loves Raymond," headed for its final taping on Friday amid strict secrecy but relatively little fanfare.

The CBS hit show starring comedian Ray Romano—and loosely based on his off-screen home life—is slated to bow off the airwaves on May 16 with one last, regular-sized, 30-minute episode, as opposed to the often-bloated, hour-long finales that have become customary for departing sitcoms.

"We didn't want to milk a half hour into an hour just for the sake of having an hour," Romano, joined by his cast mates, told a gathering of TV critics this week.

Nevertheless, the final episode will be preceded by a fairly traditional one-hour retrospective featuring highlights from the show, outtakes and interviews with the cast.

Executive producer, co-creator Phil Rosenthal, who with Romano was pressed by CBS to keep the show going for another season, said he felt the series had simply run its course.

"The reason we're stopping is because we have done everything we could think of. We are bone dry," he said.

Rosenthal and Romano were tight-lipped over details of the show's conclusion, saying they wanted to avoid spoiling the fun for its fans.

Co-star Brad Garrett joked that in the finale, "I become a medium—I start to see all the arguments we haven't had yet." The crack was a reference to NBC's new hit drama "The Medium," about a clairvoyant who helps police solve crimes.

Taking another page from NBC, executives at CBS have said they are exploring the possibility of a "Raymond" spinoff starring Garrett, the tall, deep-voiced actor who plays Romano's jealous younger brother, Robert.

Taking it in stride

"Raymond" has been the highest-rated comedy on prime-time TV since the departure last May of NBC's smash hit "Friends," averaging more than 17 million viewers a week this season.

But so far the hype surrounding the end of "Raymond" pales in comparison to the frenzy sparked by the "Friends" finale—a situation "Raymond" cast seems to take in stride.

The show, which debuted in 1996, was adapted from Romano's own experiences as a husband and father of three young children.

Reuters

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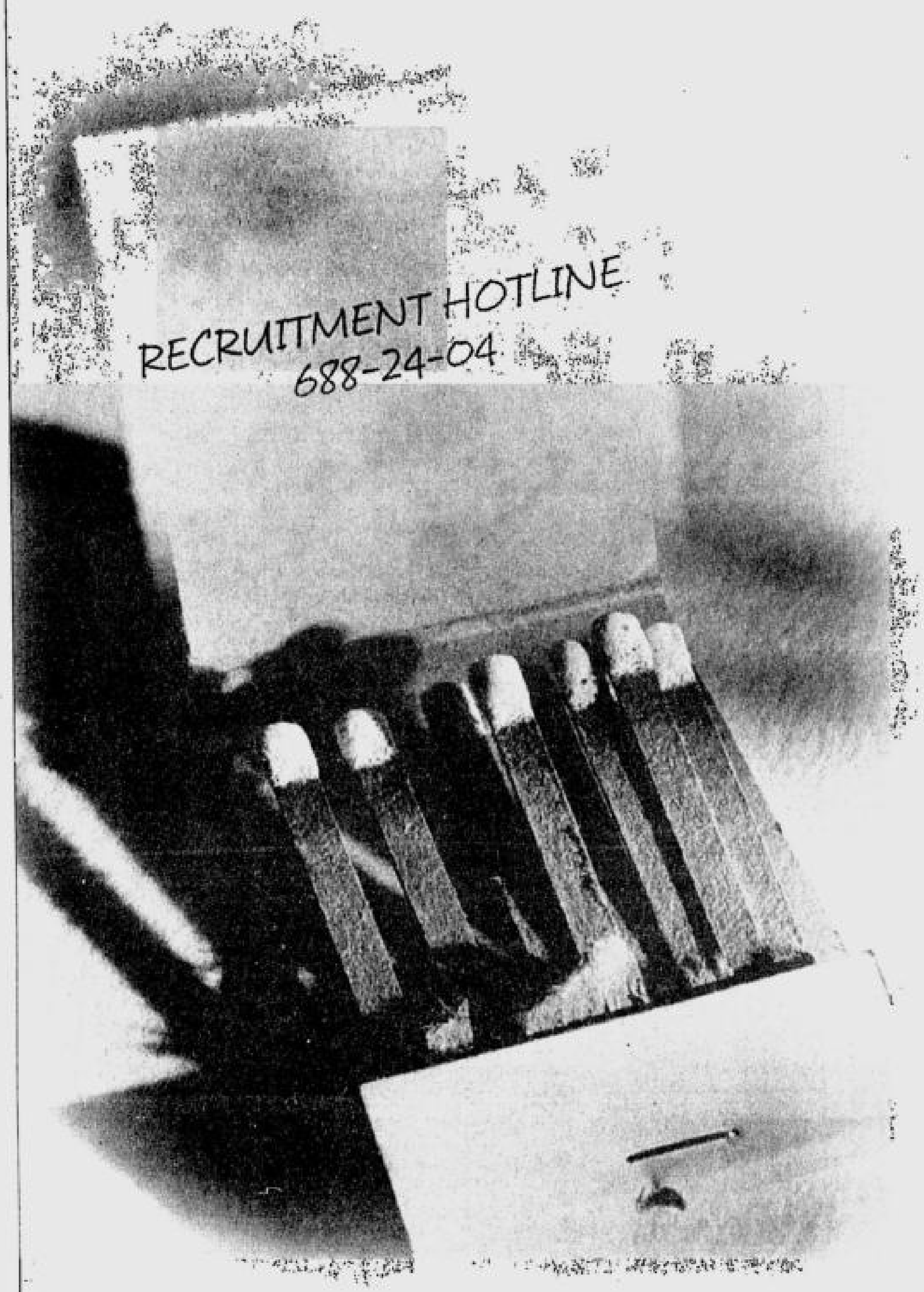
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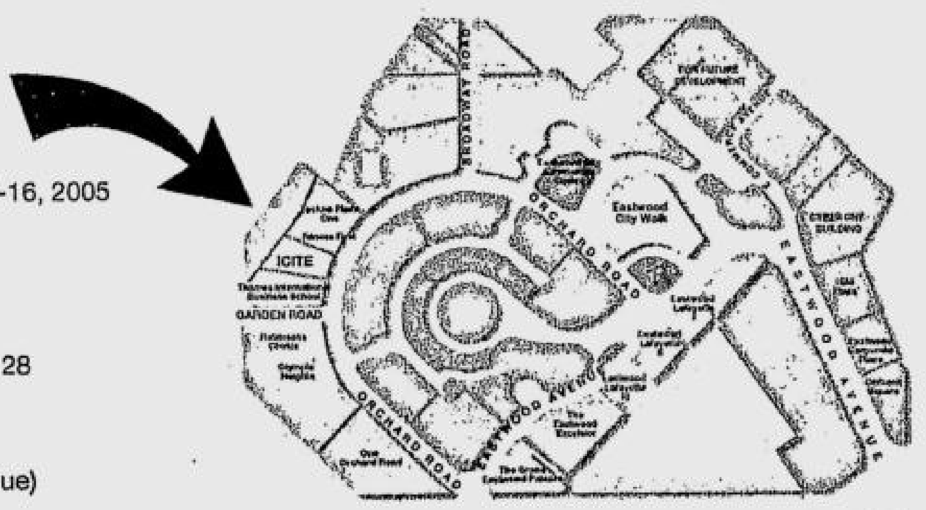
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HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER / OFFICER

not over 35 years old; graduate of Education, Psychology, Behavioral Science or any 4-year business course; with 1 to 2 years experience in all facet of personnel management in the same capacity such as specialization either in timekeeping, compensation or benefits administration; must be able to build and maintain professional relations with people in the organization; with excellent interpersonal and communication skills; team-player, goal oriented and able to work under pressure; must be computer literate

CUSTOMER RELATIONS SERVICE MANAGER / SUPERVISOR

not over 35 years old; graduate of Criminology or any 4-year business course; male, must be 5'51/2" & female, 5'2" in height; with 1 year related work experience in handling security matters and personnel; with basic knowledge in crisis management and human behavior; with keen investigation skills, detail oriented and physically fit; flexible to different work assignments and willing to be assigned to provincial branches and work on extended hours

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

Budget, Systems, Audit, Accounting

with 2 to 3 years work experience in all accounting operations in the same capacity; will be assigned to design, documents and communicate effectively the implementation of the improved workflow of the system; proficient in computer software application; team-player, goal-oriented and able to work under pressure

TRAINING OFFICER / TRAINER

not over 32 years old; graduate of Education, Psychology, Behavioral Science or any 4-year business course with 2 years related work experience; knowledgeable in conducting training needs analysis, designing, implementing and evaluating of training programs and activities related to behavior and skill modification of employees

CIVIL ENGINEER

not over 30 years old; preferably licensed; with 1 year work experience in construction projects or mall operations

DESIGN OFFICER

not over 28 years old; graduate of Architecture; preferably licensed; knowledgeable in AutoCADD application; with 1 year work experience in site inspection and supervision; proficient in drafting, designing and estimates

NURSE

not over 32 years old; must be a Registered Nurse; with 2 years experience in industrial or hospital setup; able to establish rapport and deal with all levels of the organization; willing to work on shift schedules or extended hours

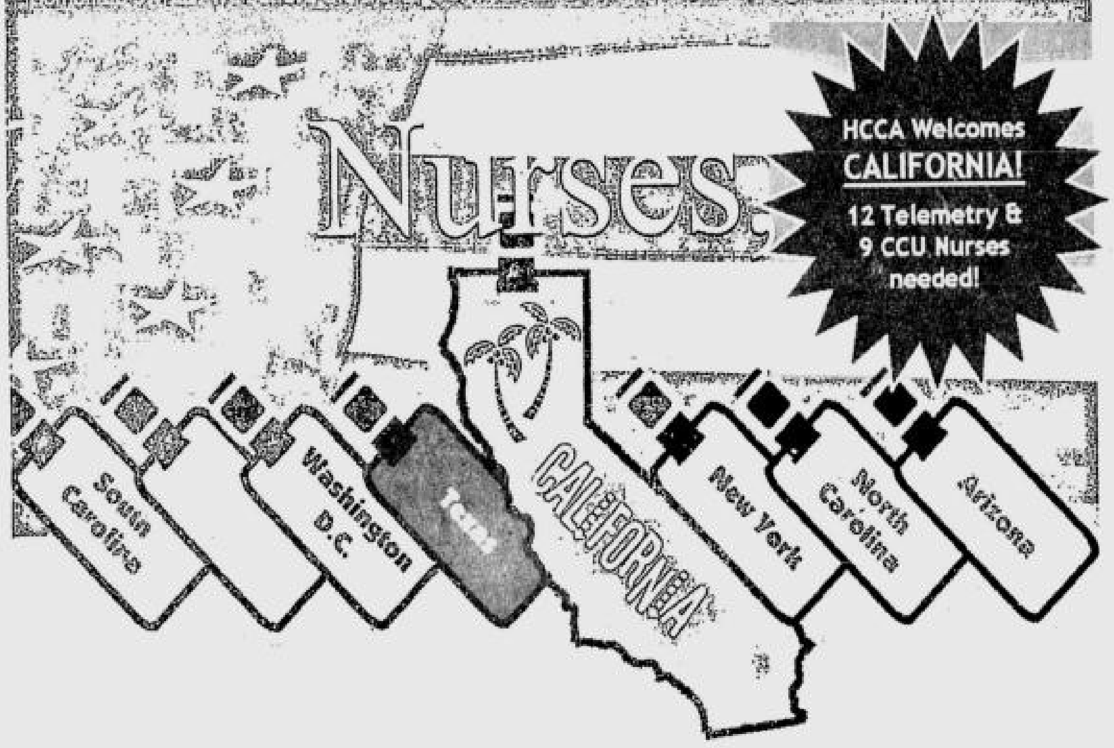
SIGN MAKER

(Quiapo, Sta Mesa & Manila)

not over 25 years old; graduate of Fine Arts, or any 4-year business course; computer literate (Windows 98, Print Shop, Adobe Illustrator); possesses professional work attitude and able to meet deadlines

[illegible]

[illegible] HCCA is working as part of a team with 24 immigration lawyers, industry lobbyists, former congressional staffers, current members of the US Congress, the American Hospital Association, local government officials, and 75 staffing companies and US healthcare providers in a focused effort to amend the current legislation on EB-3 visas. We believe the shortage of visas can be short-lived. So let's get you started RIGHT NOW!



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If you are:

1. Not under contract with a POEA-licensed recruitment agency
2. Currently employed for at least six (6) months in a 150+ bed acute care hospital and working either in Medical/Surgical or Adult Critical Care Units
3. Fluent in English and driven to seize this opportunity

Then bring your:

1. Updated resume with cases handled, procedures performed & equipment operated
2. Valid PRC License, Passport & NBI Clearance (authentic-for US travel); Birth, Marriage, Board Certificates & Subject Rating; High School, College Diploma & Transcript of Records (photocopies)
3. Original current and previous Employment Certificates and/or Recommendation Letters
4. Exam Results (if any): CGFNS/NCLEX/TOEFL & TSE/IELTS

And apply at:

The POEA Manpower Registry Division, window 1 Ground Floor Left Wing, Blas F. Ople (formerly POEA) Building, EDSA cor. Ortigas Ave., Mandaluyong City (See Ms. Blonda, Project Officer, Government Placement Branch or Call 722-1174/75) or through your local POEA Office [POEA Application Forms may also be obtained at HCCA Philippines, 33/F Tower 1, The Enterprise Center, 6766 Ayala Ave. cor. Paseo de Roxas, Makati City, Telephone No. +63 (2) 757-1000]

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Consider a change...Lead the team...Make a difference!

Outstanding developments in the past years led DKT Philippines, Inc. to move to even greater challenges to meaningfully contribute to the achievement of its Mission and Vision. One of the new initiatives is the Franchise undertaking which focuses on creating new markets for contraceptive products through a Franchising system under the Special Programs Department. We invite intelligent, industrious, self-reliant, and dedicated individuals with business development experience to apply for the following positions and become part of the TEAM who will be responsible in building and sustaining business relationship with target clients for Franchising operation.

REGIONAL FRANCHISE COORDINATOR (RFC)

This person will be responsible for achieving target sales output annually and facilitating the development of the contraceptive market in the target territories.

Minimum Qualification:

- Bachelor's degree with a minimum of 2 years fieldwork involvement and related Franchising, marketing and sales experience.
- Must have a knowledge of Franchising fundamentals and practices.
- Knowledge of contraceptive technologies and products
- Has strong interpersonal and communication skills
- Must possess a strategic planning and implementation skills, networking and collaboration skills.
- Must know how to drive and possesses a valid driver's license
- Computer literate

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Minimum Qualification:

- The applicant must have good communication skills
- Must have good technical writing skills
- Bachelor's degree and computer literate

Interested candidates may send in their application thru mail or e-mail at:

Attention : Human Resource Department
Suite 801 The Linden Suites
No. 37 San Miguel Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig
E-Mail : **hrd@frenzy.com.ph**

WÜRTH

Welcome to Würth Career

There could be an exciting opportunity for you to be one of us. We are a multi-national Company which is wholly owned by Würth Germany engaged in Trading Business selling Automotive Products. The company is in need for:

1) AREA REPRESENTATIVES (must be residents of Cagayan Valley, Isabela, La Union, Olongapo, Bataan, Nueva Ecija, Cebu, Leyte, Samar, Bohol, Davao, Cagayan de Oro, Butuan, Bukidnon, Iligan, Pagadian, Dipolog, Ozamis)

- Male or female 21 – 38 years old
- Graduate of any Business related or Engineering course
- Goal oriented, ambitious, and driven to achieve high performance
- With strong leadership potential
- Possesses excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- Flexible, aggressive, dynamic and a good team player
- Fresh Graduates are welcome to apply
- Willing to do sales fieldwork

2) FIELD COLLECTORS (for North Luzon, Metro Manila, Southern Tagalog, Visayas, Mindanao assignment)

- Male 21 – 38 years old
- Graduate of any Business related or Engineering course
- Background in collection is an advantage
- Willing to do sales fieldwork

We provide basic compensation plus commissions and bonuses, car plan and trip incentives. Qualified applicants may apply personally, mail, or fax their resume with 2x2 colored picture to:

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Km. 22 East Service Road
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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
Department of Health
National Center for Mental Health
9 de Pebrero St., Mandaluyong City
☎ Tel. No.: 531-9001 Fax: 531-8682 email: mcc@ncmh.gov.ph website: www.ncmh.gov.ph

VACANT POSITIONS

POSITION	SALARY GRADE	ITEM NUMBER	QUALIFICATIONS
NURSE VII	24	OSEC-DOHB-NURS7-5-1998	• Masteral Degree major in Nursing Service Administration or its equivalent • 5 years of experience in a supervisory or managerial position in nursing • 24 hours of training in management and supervision • A Certified Nurse (RA 1080)
ACCOUNTANT III	18	OSEC-DOHB-A3-14-1998	• Bachelor's Degree in Commerce/ Business Administration major in Accounting • 2 years of relevant experience • 8 hours of relevant training • Certified Public Accountant (RA 1080)

Qualified Applicants may submit their application letter, comprehensive resumé with picture, diploma, TOR, NBI Clearance, Authenticated Birth Certificate and Certificate of Eligibilities to the Personnel Section from Monday to Friday, 8 am to 5 pm. Deadline of submission of applications will be on or before January 31, 2005.

(Sgd.) BERNARDINO A. VICENTE, MD, FPPA, MHA, CESO IV
Medical Center Chief II

WANTED FOR IMMEDIATE EMPLOYMENT

St. Catherine Realty Corporation (SCRC), awarded by Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board (HLURB) as the leading Developer of the Year 2003 (open housing category) is in need of the following personnel

- Two (2) Licensed Civil Engineer
  Position : (1) Project Engineer & (1) Office Engineer
  Experience: – 5 years minimum experience in project implementation of subdivision development and other related subdivision construction works (for project engineer)
  Experience: – 5 years minimum experience in preparation of design, estimates, specification & contract doc (for ofc eng'r.)
- One (1) Accountant & Two (2) Accounting Clerk
  Experience – With at least 3 yrs. exp. in general accounting
- One (1) System Administrator (Computer Eng'g or Comp. Science graduate)
  Experience – With at least 3 yrs. exp. in programming & networking
- Two (2) Sales Office Marketing Staff
  Position: Office Marketing Officer
  Experience: 1 year Clerical/Marketing Experience
- Assignment: Angeles City (main office), Pampanga & Bulacan

For interested applicants, please send your application and resume at SCRC office, Angeles-Magalang Road, Pandan, Angeles City or call Engr. Mario II Mallari, at Tel. Nos. (045) 887-4142 to 46.

PROGRAMME COORDINATOR

(Film, music, fine arts, theater,...)

DUTIES:

- Planning, organisation, evaluation of cultural events
- Documentation of cultural programmes
- Contacts to Philippine cultural organisations
- Contacts to Philippine media

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Very good knowledge of the national and international arts scene
- Computer literacy
- Willingness to work outside office hours
- Some knowledge of German - or willingness to learn

Salary according to experience and on the local Goethe-Institute's salary scheme

Please apply ASAP in writing to the:

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Goethe-Institut Manila,
P.O. Box 2883, 1068 Manila, CPO
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Problem solving abilities
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To apply, please call +(632)552-9752 during weekdays 8am to 5pm for a phone interview or send your resume to opsjobs_ph@teletech.com. Please indicate "csr" on the subject line.

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TeleTech is the leading provider of customer management solutions. We have more than 33,000 employees in over 65 customer management centers in key global locations. TeleTech has supported the world's largest companies in the Philippines since 2001. For more information, go to www.teletech.com

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Synovate is the world's most dynamic and passionate-global market intelligence company. We seek smart, curious and suitably qualified people for the following positions:

RESEARCHERS

(with at least one year working experience)

RESEARCH ASSISTANTS

(with or without experience)

- computer literate
- committed to be trained in the relevant skills
- good communication and interpersonal skills
- attentive to details
- reliable and able to work to deadlines
- able to work under pressure and beyond normal working hours
- team player
- university degree

HR ASSISTANT

- 1-2 years experience in HR functions, preferably in a multinational company
- must be well-versed in SSS, PhilHealth, Pag-ibig Fund, tax withholding procedures and reporting requirements
- adept at payroll preparation
- computer literate
- well organized and attentive to details
- has a sense of urgency and can work to deadlines
- able to work under pressure and beyond normal working hours
- team player
- good oral and written English
- good interpersonal skills
- university degree

This is an entry level position. Knowledge of Philippine labor laws and other facets of HR services is a plus factor and will be an advantage in promotion to the next level.

All positions carry competitive salaries, life insurance, healthcare scheme and other benefits. Please send CV and covering letter to herlyn.david@synovate.com

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Office Assistant Wanted

- Management skills required. Computer skills required; Good salary

Two Telemarketing Positions Available

- Call centre experience required. Communication skills required. Good salary

Contact Details
Text 0917-3606704
Fax 02-6938546
Email : mail@bentleyworldwide.com

What Drives You

The Job:
Email Administrator

The Person:

- At least six years practical experience in Windows Server administration with current experience in Windows 2000.
- At least six years practical experience in multi-site Exchange administration.
- With experience administering a large distributed mail system with multiple mail servers in multiple countries.
- Experience in BCP and DR scenarios.
- Adept knowledge of SMTP.
- Strong communication and technical writing skills.
- Ability to lead and persuade in a multicultural, multinational virtual team environment.
- Willing and able to travel internationally.
- Should be customer-driven, results-oriented, and a good team player.
- Should be comfortable working in a fast-paced, dynamic work environment.

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If you share the same values and passion, you may submit your comprehensive resume to KSearch Asia Consulting, Inc. c/o Karl Fong at the 22nd Floor, 139 Corporate Centre Building, 139 Valero Street, Salcedo Village, Makati City; or email to karlfong@ksearchasia.com; with fax number at 893-6259. Please indicate the position you are applying for in the email title, or at the upper left hand corner of the envelope.

Applications received on or before Jan 26, 2005 will have an advantage.

What Drives You ★ CALTEX

Caltex is an Equal Opportunities Employer. All information supplied will be treated as strictly confidential for the purpose of selection and recruitment. Only short-listed candidates will be notified; for candidates not selected, we would like to thank you in advance for your interest in a Caltex career. Application letters will be filed for future reference for a maximum of 6 months.

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

ASSISTANT MANAGERS

NEEDED FOR METRO MANILA, VISAYAS, AND MINDANAO

- MALE / FEMALE, 25 YEARS AND ABOVE
- PREFERENCE GIVEN TO GRADUATES OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION OR RELATED COURSES
- AT LEAST 2 YEARS EXPERIENCE IN MARKETING AND SALES MANAGEMENT
- HARDWORKING, ORGANIZED, RESULT-ORIENTED
- ADEPT WITH DATA, ANALYTICAL, EXCELLENT IN WRITING & ORAL COMMUNICATION SKILLS
- WILLING AND ABLE TO TRAVEL TO DO FIELD WORK

INTERESTED APPLICANTS MAY FORWARD THEIR COMPREHENSIVE RESUME WITH 2X2 COLORED ID PICTURE, A COPY OF TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDS, NBI/POLICE CLEARANCE AND OTHER RELEVANT DOCUMENTS TO:

ONE PHILIPPINE SILVER CORPORATION
RM 804 GLOBE TELECOM PLAZA I
PIONEER STREET, MANDALUYONG CITY
TEL. NO.: (02) 637-0964 OR (02) 636-1434

OR TO ANY ***FILIGRENASIA***
OR ***GAEACRAFTS*** OUTLET

Call for Application extended until 28 January 2005

The Landcare Foundation of the Philippines Inc.

Executive Director

Competitive salary package

The Landcare Foundation of the Philippines Inc. (LCF) is an independent NGO that has been established with a US $ 200,000 Trust Fund currently committed from The Spanish Agency for International Cooperation (AECI). The Fund's purpose is to make direct investments in, and provide ongoing support to farmer-led natural resource management initiatives in the Philippine uplands.

The Board of Trustees is looking for an outstanding Executive Director who will:
- Lead the development of the LCF's investment strategy and policy
- Bring into the Board of Trustees new members with recognized expertise in natural resource management and the capacity to negotiate and influence national-level policy.
- Develop and submit proposals to donor institutions and partners for fund raising
- Supervise, coordinate, guide and support activities of the Field Officer
- Develop relationships with potential strategic partners and donor institutions.

The Candidate:
- A strategic leader and a strong manager, an influential network builder, able to communicate effectively with a diverse range of partners and in multi-cultural settings and mobilize resources effectively.
- An advanced degree in Natural Resource Management, Agriculture, Forestry or Agroforestry science, Rural development or other related field
- Fluency in English and Filipino. Working knowledge of Visayan is highly desirable

Duty Station and Tenure:
The successful application will be based at the office of the Landcare Foundation of the Philippines in Claveria, Misamis Oriental, but should have the flexibility to travel to other project sites as required.

Applicants are invited to send a detailed curriculum vitae, transcript of records, 2x2 photo and names and addresses of three referees (including telephone, fax numbers and e-mail address) via e-mail to: Manuel Bertomeu (m_bertomeu1@terra.es) or Glo Acaylar (g.acaylar@cgiar.org)
Applications will be considered until *28 January 2005*.

WE NEED PERFORMANCE-ORIENTED PEOPLE WHO ARE LOOKING FOR LONG-TERM CAREER PATH WITH GOOD COMPENSATION PACKAGE.

JOB OPENINGS:

ALL-AROUND MAINTENANCE/TECHNICIAN
- Male, has skills in the following: plumbing, electrical, mechanical, etc.

SECRETARY-ENCODER
ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANT
ACCOUNTING CLERK
HR ASSISTANT
- Female, college graduate
- Highly organized w/ experience
- Proficient in computer

ALL APPLICANTS MUST BE WILLING TO WORK LONG & FLEXIBLE HOURS. MUST BE WILLING TO UNDERGO TRAINING. EXPERIENCE IN YOUR FIELD IS AN ADVANTAGE.
Please apply in person at 158 P. Sevilla St., between 6th & 7th Aves., Grace Park, Caloocan City. Bring RESUME w/2x2 colored photo.

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CUSTOMER CARE SPECIALISTS

Job Responsibilities:
- Offer product & services through the telephone & other specified means of communication to a target list of customers in behalf of the product/services being offered.
- Provide necessary information about the product & services.
- Document all pertinent customer data using client prescribed forms.
- Meet the productivity requirements of clients on qualified calls.

Job Requirements:
- Bachelor's degree holders of any 4-year course with excellent interpersonal and communication skills particularly using American grammar, diction, intonation, inflection, intonation and articulation.
- Previous experience in customer relation, management, sales or marketing is an advantage.
- Experienced agents (Part-time/Full-time) with at least 1-year strong sales background calling for American, Australian and/or British accounts.

TEAM LEADERS

Job Responsibilities:
- Manage and motivate a team of Customer Care Specialists.
- Develop strategies to ensure the Team desired targets.
- Conduct coaching activities to address Customer Care Specialists' Improvements to improve performance and ensure that all agents are updated to company rules and the Program

Job Requirements:
- Bachelor's degree holders of any 4-year course with excellent interpersonal and proficiency in the English language
- Must have at least 6 months hands-on experience as Team Leaders managing hard sales accounts calling for American, Australian and/or British accounts.
- Track record as an agent calling for hard sales accounts is a definite advantage.

INTERNAL AUDITOR

Job Responsibilities:
- Reports directly to the Chairman of the Board regarding operational audit and independent review of controls and procedures and prepare audit plans, programs and comprehensive audit report
- Recommends and documents Policy changes and provide analysis and recommendations to audit reviews
- Provides assistance to ensure efficiency in accounting, administrative and operational controls to maintain quality standard financial information to shareholders

Job Requirements:
- Must have at least 3 years working foundation in leading audit firms or 3 years extensive Internal Audit experience
- Must have excellent analytical ability, good interpersonal skills and exceptional verbal and written communication
- Must be CPA graduates of UP/DLSU/UE and other leading universities; MBA and/or CFA gains an advantage
- Working experience in the same capacity in a call center is a plus

CREDIT AND COLLECTION OFFICER

Job Responsibilities:
- Maintains Accounts Receivable, general and subsidiary records
- Prepares aging and other analyses for management
- Establishes and maintain credit evaluation system
- Ensures adherence to credit and collection policies
- Prepares and transmit Statement of Accounts to clients and coordinate with internal Client Services for follow-up

Job Requirements:
- Accounting or Business Graduate
- At least 5 years experience, last 2 in supervisory capacity, in credit and collection, internal or external audit
- Expected to be detail-oriented and pro-active with above average communication skills (written and oral)
- Experience in both manual and automated financial systems is a plus

FINANCIAL ANALYST

Job Responsibilities:
- Works under the direction of the CFO and/or CEO in preparing regular financial reports and projects required by senior management, Executive Committee and the Board Directors
- Assists the CFO and ExCom in maintaining an up-to-date and complete governance documents
- Coordinates ExCom and Board meetings; Liaises with key representatives of current and prospective investor groups as well as manage requests for information from all external parties

Job Requirements:
- Must have at least 3 years working foundation as either a Financial Analyst, Bank Lending Officer / Investment Banking Associate, Corporate Governance Professional or Auditor (Internal or External)
- Must be Business graduates with substantial work experience or a CPA with similar working capacity

NETWORK ENGINEERS

Job Responsibilities:
- Manage and maintain infrastructure and network connectivity, IP subnetting across LAN and WAN and network infrastructure documentation
- Ensure network security using PIX Firewall as well as connectivity of LAN and WAN
- Install and configures CISCO routers and Catalysts switches

Job Requirements:
- Must have at least 2 years working knowledge in managing and troubleshooting CISCO routers and Catalysts switches, LAN and WAN infrastructure and CISCO PIX Firewall management
- Must have strong background in TCP/IP and understanding of OSPF and BGP routing protocol
- Willing to be a 24 x 7 on-call support personnel; CCNA certified gains advantage

TELEPHONY ENGINEERS

Job Responsibilities:
- Manage and maintain voice gateways across organization and ensure cost-effective & reliable voice connection
- Manage the predictive dialer and implement necessary QoS to ensure voice quality
- Perform capacity planning on PSTN trunk and WAN bandwidth utilization and ensure standardized structured cabling across organization as well as liaise with Carrier
- Willing to be a 24 x 7 on-call support personnel

Job Requirements:
- Must have substantial working knowledge in CISCO voice gateways, Avaya PBX Administration and CISCO Call Manager 3.3 platform and CISCO IOS
- Must have strong understanding of H.323 protocol and E1 / E2 and ISDN signaling
- Working knowledge in Stratasoft IP dialer and CISCO IP dialer and CIPT certified gains advantage

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CEBU PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE SERVICES

Cebu Pacific International Language Services, Inc. (CPILS, INC.) is a pioneering tutorial services specializing in teaching English as a Second Language (ESL) to Asian students. We are looking for competent individuals to fill the following positions:

NATIVE ENGLISH SPEAKERS

- Between 28-40 years old
- Preferably an Australian, American, Canadian and British citizen
- Preferably a holder of Philippine resident visa
- Preferably with bachelor's degree or CELTA/TEFL/TESL certificate
- Must be energetic, outgoing and creative
- Must possess good interpersonal skills

HRD
Cebu Pacific International Language Services
Benedicto Building (formerly Harbor View Hotel)
M.J. Cuenco Avenue, Cebu City. Tel. No. (032) 416-7637

Or you can send your applications through our e-mail address
eliza_cpils@yahoo.com

or fax your application at 032-4167638

CRISDY-NA

CRISDY-NA DRUG CORPORATION, an importer / distributor of High Quality Pharmaceutical Products from Australia and Japan in its expansion for 2005 will be needing the following personnel:

MEDICAL SALES REPRESENTATIVES

Qualifications:
- Male or Female, 21-25 years old, single
- At least 5'2" in height
- Graduate of any four-year course (preferably science courses)
- With pleasing personality, and of good moral character
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Results-oriented, dedicated, hardworking, and a Teamplayer
- Willing to accept provincial assignment
- With driving skills

Successful participants will enjoy:
- Competitive Compensation Package
- Attractive Car Plan
- Excellent Sales Incentive Program

CLINICIAN/PROMO REPRESENTATIVE

- Male or female, 21-25 years old, single
- At least 5'2 in height
- At least 2nd year college or graduate of any four-year course (preferably science courses)
- With pleasing personality
- Honest, loyal and hardworking person
- Can work with minimum supervision

MARKETING ASSISTANT

- Male or Female, single, not more than 25 years old
- Graduate of any four-year course (preferably Marketing or any business course)
- 1-2 years experience in the same capacity
- Can develop & implement strategic plan
- Hardworking, assertive and can work with minimum supervision
- Preferably with driving skills

Qualified applicants are requested to apply in person at 5/F G-Seven Sons Co., Bldg., 646 Muelle de Binondo, Pereira St., Binondo, Manila, Tel. No. 243-2393 from January 17-21, 2005 (9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.) please bring the following requirements: Resumé, latest 2x2 picture and Transcript of Record.

Previous applicants need not apply

FILVENTURE INDUSTRIES CORPORATION

Looking for

TRADE RETAIL SALES REPRESENTATIVES

Qualifications:
New Graduates Preferred
- 20-25 years old
- willing to do field work
- can work under pressure
- female
- aggressive
- pleasing personality and service oriented

Please send or drop your resumés at #18 Kamuning Road, Unit 2-E K-Plaza Building, Quezon City.

An Export Company

is in need of the following:

Weaver/Material Designer
Box/Packaging Designer
Household/Interior Designer
Fashion/Accessories Designer

with at least 2 years experience

Please send your resumé and salary desired to
dohn_jat@yahoo.com and
leila_bayron@yahoo.com
not later than January 27, 2005

WANTED IMMEDIATELY

LABEL DESIGNER

- Male, 20-26 years old
- With good moral attitude
- Mechanical Engineering course. Graduate or undergraduate
- Knowledgeable in basic drawing using computer
- Preferably with experience in weaving machine & needle loom.

Interested applicants can submit their resumé personally through registered mail with 2x2 pictures & other related credentials to

TOPWAY INTERNATIONAL IND'L., INC.
3 Donesa St., West Canumay,
Valenzuela City / Attention: Ms. Julie

Stores Specialists, Inc.

Exclusive franchisee for some of the finest international names in fashion like Gucci, Prada, Philippe Charriol, Salvatore Ferragamo, Burberry, Kate Spade, Tod's, Armani Exchange, Lacoste, Calvin Klein, Nine West, Polo Ralph Lauren, Bass, Bally, Anne Klein, Kenneth Cole, DKNY, Diesel, Coach, Beauty Bar, Lush, Make Room and more

Is in immediate need of top caliber individuals:

ADVERTISING ASSISTANT

- Female; at least 24 years old; Pleasing personality
- College graduate from a reputable university within Metro Manila
- With at least one (1) year work experience in advertising - on either the agency's side (accounts or media department) or client's
- Proficient in both oral and written English
- Must be highly organized; with very good administrative skills
- Must be computer literate - Excel, Word and Power Point

INVENTORY CONTROL OFFICER

- Female; Between 25-30 years old; Pleasing personality
- Must be a Certified Public Accountant (CPA)
- Must have at least two (2) years experience in Accounting work
- Must be proficient in MS Office applications (Excel/Word)
- Must be highly analytical and results-oriented
- Must be proficient in both oral and written communications

QUALIFIED APPLICANTS ARE REQUESTED TO E-MAIL OR SEND IMMEDIATELY THEIR COMPREHENSIVE RESUMÉ, TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDS AND A RECENT 2x2 PHOTO TO:

STORES SPECIALISTS, INC.
Human Resources Management Division
(c/o Executive Administration)
Ground Floor Midland Buendia Bldg.
403 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City
E-mail address: embaysa@rgoc.com.ph

(We will reply to qualified applicants only)

WANTED MOTHERS

WITH YOUNG CHILDREN (ages 0-12 years old)
Who want to raise the IQ and EQ of their child

If you are:

- Are willing to work 8 to 10 hours a week around your children's schedule or your current occupation.
- Are willing to work part-time presenting to parents with young children.

We offer:

- a FREE seminar on how to develop your child's potential for maximum IQ and EQ.
- a FREE hands-on orientation using our multilevel and multisensory materials.
- an income of P4,000 to 5 to 6 presentations.
- a chance to own the programs for your children at almost NO COST

WE ALSO NEED PEOPLE ABLE TO WORK FULL TIME
INCOME P30,000 up

Bring your resumé with ID picture, January 24-25, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. to:
504 Galleria Corporate Center
EDSA cor. Ortigas, Q.C.
(beside Robinsons Galleria)

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sportshouse

is in need of

BRANCH SUPERVISOR

- Male / Female, college graduate
- Willing to be assigned in any branch nationwide
- Responsible, trustworthy, can work with minimum supervision
- Must possess strong leadership skills
- At least one year experience in retail / sales operation

MARKETING ASSISTANT

- Male / Female, graduate of any four year course major in marketing
- Must possess creativity and a pleasing personality
- Has good communication and marketing skills

ACCOUNTING HEAD

- Female, Graduate of BS Accountancy or BSC Accounting Major
- Minimum of two years experience in general accounting
- Resourceful, highly motivated and can work with minimum supervision
- Proficient in computer

DRIVER

- Male
- Restriction Code 1-2-3
- Possess good moral character
- Not more than 35 years old

Please send your resumé with 2x2 pictures at:

Sportshouse Human Resource Department
Golden Tree Mansion # 74 Ignacio Santos
Diaz Avenue (formerly Banahaw St.)
Cubao, Quezon City
Tel. # 722-9883; 723-9125

ACCOUNTANT

- B.S. Accountancy graduate, male/female
- With 3 yrs. work experience in bookkeeping, cost/ general acctg.
- Must possess managerial skills in all aspect of accounting operation.
- Analytical and results oriented.

Send or E-mail application letter and resumé with a recent passport size picture to:

I.O.S. *Marketing Corporation*
846 P. Paterno St., Quiapo, Manila E-mail: iosmc@yahoo.com

LAWYERS URGENTLY NEEDED

A VERY PROMISING AND FAST EXPANDING LAW FIRM BASED IN MAKATI URGENTLY NEEDS LAWYERS. COMPETITIVE COMPENSATION PACKAGE AWAITS SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS.

APPLICANTS COMING FROM THE TOP THREE LAW SCHOOLS AND WITH AT LEAST ONE YEAR EXPERIENCE HAVE AN ADVANTAGE.

APPLICANTS MAY SEND THEIR RESUMÉ TO 5TH FLOOR, COCOFED BLDG., 144 AMORSOLO ST., LEGASPI VILLAGE, MAKATI, OR MAY FAX THE SAME AT 8920746.

NEEDED IMMEDIATELY

SECRETARY

- Female, single
- Must be 21 to 27 years old
- 2 years experience an advantage
- Computer literate, proficient in English
- Willing to stay-in

MARKETING ASSISTANT

- Male/Female, single preferably
- Must be 25 to 30 years old
- With experience in sales & marketing
- Computer literate, proficient in English

For more information, please call (02) 926-1883 and look for Sonia

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SALES AGENTS/TELEMARKETERS

- at least college level
- aggresive/hardworking
- honest/ambitious/self motivated
- has a keen desire to learn
- HAS A GREAT NEED TO EARN!

Resumé & NBI Clearance to:

EDGE 21 Logistics
24/F, Raffles Corp. Ctr.
Emerald Ave., Ortigas, Pasig
Fax 900-5526

Opportunity knocks but once.

Read it every Sunday with the Philippine Daily Inquirer.

THE MAGSAYSAY GROUP OF COMPANIES

A leader in the maritime and human resource industries embarking on a global expansion program has urgent need for high caliber professionals for the following positions:

HEAD OF SHIP MANAGEMENT

Reporting directly to the President, the person we are looking for shall ensure that all company owned and/or managed vessels are maintained economically, safely and efficiently in accordance with Class and International/National Standards. He shall be responsible for the development of strategic and operational business plans and oversee their effective implementation. As head of a strategic unit, he is responsible for his department's bottom line. Together with his management team and Group IT department, he shall work at continually improving systems and procedures in ship management, including identification of proper technological support. He shall be responsible for performance management, competency development and career management of the shore based staff and ships crew.

Qualifications:

- With at least 2 years experience as Head of Ship Management
- Licensed Chief Engineer or Master
- Actual shipboard experience preferred
- Extensive exposure to shipping operations
- Excellent oral and written English
- Highly customer focused/has extensive exposure in dealing with ship owners
- Excellent in business & operations planning
- Excellent in the management and development of people
- Computer literate

CORPORATE PLANNING MANAGER

In accordance with the Company Vision, Mission and Core principles, the person we are looking for will occupy a key position in the Corporate Planning office, which is responsible for: planning and allocation of capital and resources: investment analysis and ranking. Research and development-continuous search for relevance through benchmarking, positioning, trending and improvement of competencies. Ensuring that business plans and programs reflect the vision and core principles of the Company. Coordinating the business planning and mid-year review activities: developing the socio-political and macro-economic scenarios for both business planning and mid-year review. Ensuring that the Company's technological and support framework allows the organization to reach its vision/Providing pro-active support to the Executive Committee in the management of key issues.

Qualifications:

- With at least 2 years corporate planning experience in a managerial level or 5 years experience in a General Management position.
- Graduate of Industrial Engineering or Business Management from a highly reputable school
- With an MBA preferably from AIM, Ateneo or UP
- Highly computer literate
- Not more than 40 years old
- Can think very strategically without losing sight of current operations
- With excellent communication skills
- Excellent people skills
- High EQ ; principle centered
- Organized, systematic, analytical thinker

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT

The right candidate will be responsible for rendering quality administrative support to the President in her day to day activities and projects in the Company as well as in her involvement in various associations and advocacies.

Qualifications:

- Minimum of 5 years experience as Executive Assistant
- College graduate from a highly reputable school, preferably in a business course, MBA degree or units preferred.
- Female, in her 20's or 30's
- Highly presentable, excellent interpersonal relationship skills, can feel at home with all levels of the organization
- With high level of integrity and work ethics
- Pleasantly assertive, cheerful, energetic, adaptable, works smart and fast, will not mind long hours, quick in comprehension, analytical organized and systematic
- Excellent in oral and written English
- Excellent EQ, very mature in outlook

QUALITY ASSURANCE SAFETY & SECURITY (QASS) OFFICER

The person we are looking for will assist in the implementation of company policy on Health Safety Environment And Security. He will handle the development maintenance and revisions of company and shipboard manuals. He will conduct orientation on safety and Emergency Preparedness. Likewise, will perform audits, organize auditors and audits for shore based and shipboard operations.

- College graduate of Nautical, Marine Engineering or any Engineering course
- With at least 2 years experience on ship operations, office safety, security, QA and emergency preparedness
- Male, not more than 35 years old

GROUP PURCHASING MANAGER

Primarily responsible for efficient and timely delivery of the most cost effective supplies, spare parts, equipment and resources that satisfactorily meet the specifications given by all units. He shall be tasked to conceptualize and strategize the Company procurement program and document systems and procedures into a Purchasing Manual. He will regularly evaluate system effectiveness and applicability. He shall keep the purchasing unit informed of current developments trends and practices and introduce innovations. He is also expected to realize a savings of 10% of current purchasing expenses.

Qualifications:

- College graduate, with MBA a plus
- With minimum experience of 5 years in Purchasing, 3 years of which as Head of the Department in a Multi National company.
- Not more than 50 years old
- Proficient in computer, preferably with exposure in e-procurement
- With unquestionable integrity, good leadership skills and is trustworthy

INTERNAL AUDIT MANAGER

Reporting directly to the President and Internal Audit Committee, the person we are looking for will provide management with an independent and informed view of the state of their business controls. He/she will recommend necessary improvements to ensure that the control framework remains complete, effective and efficient.

Qualifications:

- Graduate of BS Accountancy, preferably CPA
- Male/Female, not more than 45 years old
- With solid work experience in handling internal operations and financial audit
- Adept in developing and integrating audit plan on a long-term basis
- Analytical, an excellent leader and a good team-player
- With excellent communication skills both oral and written

SECRETARY (OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT)

The right candidate will be responsible for providing quality secretarial support to the President in her day- to- day activities in the Company as well as in her involvement in various associations and advocacies.

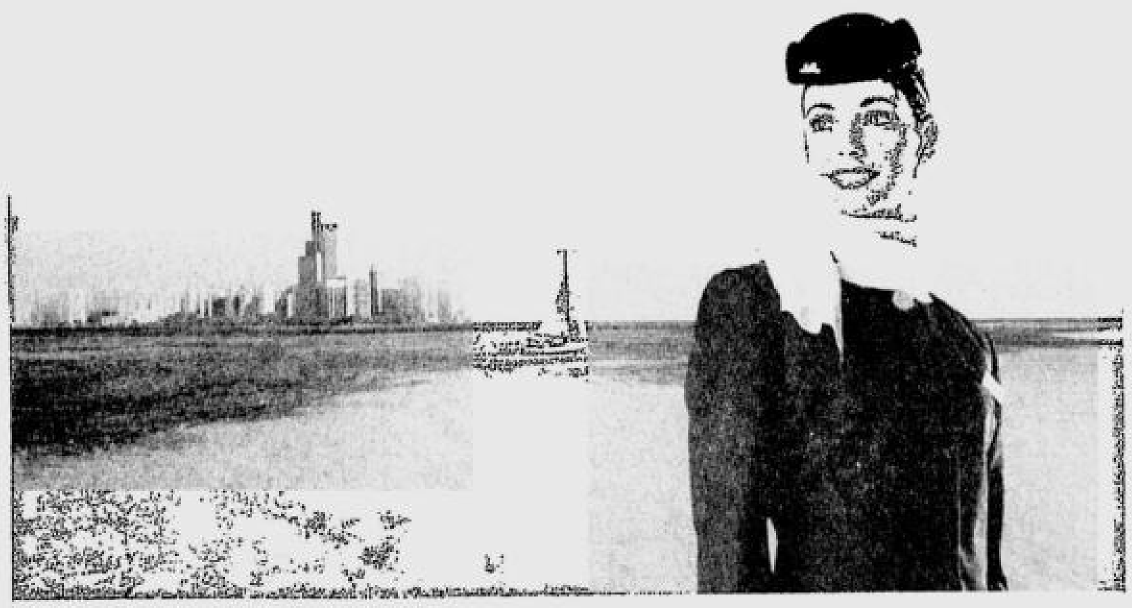
Qualifications:

- Graduate of any business or communication course
- Minimum of two years experience as Secretary or Assistant to a Senior Manager/Executive
- Female, not more than 30 years old
- Presentable, pleasantly assertive, quick to understand, energetic
- With above average communication skills, able to compose business correspondence
- Good interpersonal relationship skills

Interested applicants are requested to email resume at jqpaez@magsaysay.com.ph or apply on- line at www.magsaysay.com.ph (Go to on-line land based employment application)

Female Cabin Crew Recruitment

Etihad Airways.



How would you like to be a part of the world's fastest growing airline? Let your career take off with Etihad!

Etihad Airways was established in November 2003 as the national airline of the UAE and has since grown to over 800 colleagues, flying to 14 destinations. Over the coming years we will be growing at an even faster rate

Etihad Airways are looking for Flight Attendants to join our prestigious team. If successful, you will be based in Abu Dhabi, the Capital of the UAE, where you will benefit from a tax-free salary, furnished accommodation and numerous other benefits appropriate to the position.

In order to qualify you must stand at least 1.6m tall, be under 30 years of age (32 if you have current airline experience) and be fluent in the English language. Other languages would be beneficial. Applicants must also be medically fit and show evidence of educational attainment to High School Certificate level. Previous experience in a customer care environment will be a definite advantage.

Voted World's Leading New Airline

Please register your interest
before 2nd February at
www.careers.etihadairways.com
We will contact individuals
for an appointment.

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AIRWAYS
www.etihadairways.com

UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND

The Office of the Representative of the United Nations Population Fund, Manila is seeking applications from competent candidates to fill the post of

National Professional Project Personnel (NPPP) for Reproductive Health (RH).

Duties and Responsibilities:
Under the supervision of the UNFPA Representative, the NPPP for Reproductive Health is the focal point of UNFPA-supported activities at the national and provincial levels and is expected to administer and provide technical expertise to UNFPA-supported programmes and projects that are responsive to the country's need in the area of reproductive health (RH). More specifically, the NPPP for RH:

- Provides assistance to the RH component, as well as the RH aspects of the Population and Development Strategies, Advocacy and Adolescent Reproductive Health programmes as follows:
  - provides strategic guidance for a pro-poor, gender-responsive, rights-based RH programmes;
  - provides technical assistance and guidance to all executing and implementing agencies in the area of RH;
  - prepares consolidated report on RH activities while identifying bottlenecks and recommendations for improving programme/project operations.
- Assists in review and revision of programme/project document drafts to ensure completion of all requisite documents and compliance with policies and guidelines.
- Reviews, monitors, evaluates and provides technical assistance to projects under the RH programmes at national and provincial levels.
- Reviews and monitors programme/project budget.
- Promotes policy dialogue with stakeholders.
- Shares strategic state-of-the-art knowledge on RH with colleagues and counterparts.
- Coordinates meetings and workshops related to country programme activities.
- Performs other programme-related duties as may be required.

Essential Specifications and Competencies:
- Minimum academic degree: Master's Degree in the social sciences preferably in Public Health.
- Ten years or more of relevant, demonstrated professional experience in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of projects in the area of population and reproductive health.
- Working experience at provincial and municipal levels.
- Ability to analyze complex issues related to socio-economic or public health development objectives, especially in the areas of population and reproductive health.
- Strong initiative, sound judgment and demonstrated managerial capabilities.
- Strong proven capacity for conceptual innovation, relationship building/partnering and networking, promoting teamwork and task management.
- Behavior critical to successful performance in an organizational culture such as integrity and corporate commitment, leveraging diversity, stewardship of public resources, advocacy of organizational values, cultural sensitivity and adaptability in a multi-cultural environment, commitment to learning and knowledge-sharing and client orientation are highly desirable.

Applicants are requested to send their application letters indicating post title together with completed UN Personal History Forms (P.11), available at www.unfpa.org.ph/jobs to:

The Country Representative
United Nations Population Fund
P.O. Box 7285 DAPO
1300 Domestic Road
Pasay City, Metro Manila
Or through email at officemail@unfpa.org.ph

Salary: Negotiable based on experience and qualifications
Deadline for submission of applications: 4 February 2005 (Only short-listed applicants will be notified).

UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND

The Office of the Representative of the United Nations Population Fund, Manila is seeking applications from competent candidates to fill the post of

National Professional Project Personnel (NPPP) for Operations Research and Monitoring & Evaluation (OPME)

Duties and Responsibilities:
Under the supervision of the UNFPA Representative, the NPPP for Operations Research and Monitoring & Evaluation is expected to provide technical expertise to evaluations and surveys of UNFPA-supported programmes and projects that are responsive to the country's need in the area of reproductive health (RH), population and gender.

More specifically, as part of the Country Office Team, the NPPP for Operations Research and Monitoring & Evaluation will undertake the following duties and responsibilities.

As focal person for monitoring and evaluation and research, provides assistance to the Reproductive Health (RH), Advocacy and Population and Development Strategies (PDS)g sub-programme component projects as follows:
- Provides technical assistance and guidance to all executing and implementing agencies of the 6th Country Programme (6CP) in the area of Operations Research, monitoring and evaluation;
- Prepares consolidated reports on Operations Research activities of the 6CP, while identifying bottlenecks and recommendations for improving programme/project operations;
- Develops a design for Operations Research for RH, Adolescent Reproductive Health (ARH) and Advocacy at the national, regional and component provincial and NGO levels.
- Facilitates and assists in the development of the Operations Research agenda for the 6CP.
- Leads the implementation and execution of the Operations Research and monitoring & evaluation framework of the 6CP.
- Develops and implements mechanisms for scientific validation of project/programme reports and experiences of the 6CP.

As a Technical Adviser, operationalizes and improves the monitoring & evaluation component of the 6CP and its component projects:
- Enhances existing monitoring tools and checklists developed for the RH, ARH and Advocacy programmes/projects.
- Enhances and finalizes the tools, in consultation with the RH, ARH and Advocacy programme advisors, staff and partners.
- Facilitates and manages meetings, consultations and workshops pertaining to the Operations Research and monitoring & evaluation component of the 6CP. Furthermore, he/she ensures maintenance of the Results-Based Management (RBM) adaptation of partners and accountability at all programming levels through the use of the logframe as a monitoring & evaluation tool.

As the Adviser for Research and Monitoring & Evaluation, focuses on developing ways on sustaining 6CP initiatives through the formulation of effective ways on local partner ownership and cooperative linkages with local and national partners.

Reviews, monitors, evaluates and provides technical assistance to projects/programmes at national and provincial levels, to ensure their compliance with UNFPA policies and procedures:
- Undertakes project monitoring activities like meetings and field visits and prepares monitoring reports which shall identify bottlenecks and recommends ways for improvement of project operations;
- Reviews correspondence and other documents and takes routine follow-up actions in consultation and coordination with other programme advisers and partners and drafts a variety of routine materials such as letters and memoranda;
- Reviews sub-programme/project reports and outputs and provides necessary guidance to ensure compliance with project requirements for monitoring & evaluation.

Performs other programme-related duties as may be required.

Essential Specifications and Competencies:
- Minimum academic degree: Master's Degree in the social sciences preferably in Research and Monitoring & Evaluation.
- Five years or more of relevant, demonstrated professional experience in project development and management in the field of Operations Research and Monitoring & Evaluation.
- At least three years experience and specialized knowledge in ARH.
- Strong proven capacity for conceptual innovation, relationship building/partnering and networking, promoting teamwork and task management.
- Behavior critical to successful performance in an organizational culture such as integrity and corporate commitment, leveraging diversity, stewardship of public resources, advocacy of organizational values, cultural sensitivity and adaptability in a multi-cultural environment, commitment to learning and knowledge-sharing and client orientation are highly desirable.

Applicants are requested to send their application letters indicating post title together with completed UN Personal History Forms (P.11), available at www.unfpa.org.ph/jobs to:

The Country Representative
United Nations Population Fund
P.O. Box 7285 DAPO
1300 Domestic Road
Pasay City, Metro Manila
Or through email at officemail@unfpa.org.ph

Salary: Negotiable based on experience and qualifications
Deadline for submission of applications: 4 February 2005 (Only short-listed applicants will be notified).

A PRESTIGIOUS AND DYNAMIC GROUP OF COMPANIES IS OFFERING A SATISFYING AND REWARDING CAREER TO HIGHLY COMPETENT PROFESSIONALS TO FILL THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS

CHEMICAL, CIVIL, ELECTRICAL, (24) INDUSTRIAL and MECHANICAL ENGINEERS

- Male, not more than 40 years old
- Licensed, with very good scholastic record from a prestigious school or university
- With more than 5 years work experience
- With excellent communications skills, both oral and written
- Computer literate and very familiar with ISO/TQM standard
- Flexible, hardworking and can work with minimum supervision

AUDITORS (2)

- Male, not more than 40 years old
- Accounting graduate, preferably a CPA, from a reputable school or university
- At least five (5) years experience as an Auditor
- Comprehensive knowledge in financial statements preparation, feasibility studies, and taxation
- Experience in external audit is an advantage
- Familiar with different computerized accounting systems
- Honest, dependable, industrious, willing to work long hours

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT/SECRETARY

- College graduate and with good scholastic record preferably from UP, Ateneo, La Salle, UA & P
- Must have at least 5 to 10 years related work experience
- Not more than 35 years old
- Excellent in oral and written communications
- Good typing skills and computer literate
- Can be delegated to perform highly responsible duties and able to organize office systems and procedures
- Patient, flexible in time schedule and dedicated to work
- Ability to work with least supervision, results oriented, hardworking, and willing to work long hours
- Preferably a resident of San Juan, Quezon City, Makati or within Metro Manila

RECEPTIONIST

- Not more than 30 years old
- With smart appearance and good communication skills
- With pleasant and friendly personality and should be courteous
- Flexible, can work long hours and under pressure
- Should be efficient and well-organized and can work with minimum supervision
- Must have more than 3 years work experience in the same field

MOTORPOOL SUPERVISOR

- Male, not more than 45 years old
- Preferably a Mechanical Engineering graduate with good scholastic record
- Must have at least three (3) years comprehensive experience in Motorpool supervision
- With knowledge in repair of trucks, especially Isuzu and I.H.
- Reliable, a team player and can work long hours and under pressure
- Willing to relocate for provincial assignment

COMPANY DRIVERS (6)

- At least 28 to 35 years old
- At least five (5) years experience in driving private vehicles as company driver
- Must be willing to drive 10-wheeler-type trucks
- Must be familiar with Metro Manila routes
- Knowledge in trouble shooting is an advantage
- Familiar with driver etiquette, with pleasing personality, alert

ARCHITECTS (2)

- Licensed; with at least 3-5 years of relevant work experience
- Must have a background in Autocad; knowledgeable in MS applications
- Must be 25-35 years old
- Exposure in design of formworks, estimating and project costing
- Must have experience in design of commercial, residential buildings and site development

CHEMISTS (4)

- Graduate of Chemical Engineering/Chemistry
- Keen on details
- Has Extensive background in water treatment and waste water treatment process.
- Preferably supervisor/ more than 5 years of experiences specializing in Chemistry equivalent
- Expertise on Research and Development

WELDERS

- Must be 22 to 30 years old
- Must have worked for at least two (2) years
- Must be 3G/6G level

HEAVY EQUIPMENT MECHANIC

- Experienced in major overhaul; able to repair engines, transmission, break system; rebuilding and heavy equipment preventive maintenance
- Preferably with some electrical background
- 28 to 40 years old
- At least five (5) years experience in related work

MAINTENANCE MECHANICS (3)

- Preferably a mechanical engineer
- With experience in production equipment maintenance to include combustion and rotating equipment
- Male, 28-35 years of age
- Willing to work long hours and /or shifting schedule
- Willing to accept provincial assignment

PROCESS OPERATORS (4)

- Preferably a chemical engineer, mechanical engineer is acceptable
- With production experience in the operation of a Chemical Plant
- Male, 28-35 years of age
- Willing to work long hours and /or shifting schedule
- Willing to accept provincial assignment

ELECTRICIAN (1)

- Licenced master electrician or an electrical engineer
- With experience in Industrial Plant with knowledge in motor controls
- Male, 28-35 years of age
- Willing to work long hours and /or shifting schedule
- Willing to accept provincial assignment

FORKLIFT OPERATORS (3)

- Vocational graduate
- With at least 2 years experience and with knowledge in equipment maintenance
- Male, 28-35 years of age
- Willing to work long hours and /or shifting schedule
- Willing to accept provincial assignment trustworthy and willing to work overtime

FITTERS

- Male, 25 to 35 years old
- Must have at least three (3) years experience in pipefitting in industrial plants
- Must be able to read or interpret piping drawings
- At least high school or vocational graduate related to pipefitting works

Qualified applicants are invited to submit their comprehensive resume, most recent 2 x 2 Picture, transcript of records, certificates of employment at:

Suite 306, Bonaventure Plaza, Ortigas Ave., Greenhills, San Juan, M.M.

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

Taguig and Quezon City Residents only

Accounting Clerk (Male)
- 21-25 years old
- BS Accountancy Graduate
- Preferably with experience
- Quezon City resident only

Dining / Kitchen Supervisor (Male or Female)
- At least 30 years old
- Graduate of Hotel & Restaurant Management
- Preferably w/ dinng or Kitchen supervisory experience
- Willing to work long hours and holidays
- Very keen on details

Male Kitchen Staff
- With kitchen experience
- College level
- Can work under pressure

Male / Female Dining Staff
- 1 year working experience
- College level
- With good interpersonal skills
- Can interact using English
- With pleasing personality

Cashier (Female)
- 2 years working experience
- With knowledge in POS system
- College graduate
- Honest & Hardworking

Kindly submit your resumé with a recent 2 x 2 picture & indicate your desired position.

Address to:
PO BOX # 294
Araneta Center Post Office
Cubao, Q.C. 1135

NETESSENTIALS **Network Essentials Corporation** AMD

A fast-growing IT-based distribution company is looking for highly motivated individuals to be part of the team:

CHANNEL SALES EXECUTIVES
Male or Female; A self-driven Graduate of any 4-year course; Not more than 28 years old; Excellent Sales skills; Articulate; Ability to establish/ maintain new accounts; Experience in computer (PC) parts and peripherals sales a definite advantage; Computer literate; Exceptional analytical and communication skills

OFFICE/ ACCOUNTING STAFF
Female, not more than 28 years old; Graduate of a 4-year college or 2-year vocational course; Adept at filing office documents; With background in Inventory Management and Records Upkeep; With knowledge of computer parts & peripherals; Computer literate (esp Excel); Good organizational skills

TELEMARKETER
Male or Female, not more than 28 years old; Graduate of a 4-year college or 2-year vocational course; Proficient in Oral and Written English; Computer Literate (Word, Excel, Powerpoint); With background in selling computer parts & peripherals

COMPUTER TECHNICIANS / FULL TIME OJT
Male, not more than 25 years old; At least college level -Computer Engineering or Graduate of a related 2-year vocational course; Adept at computer troubleshooting; Comprehensive background in computer parts & peripherals; Computer literate (Word, Excel); Good organizational skills

Positions also open: **Motorcycle/ Company Driver**

MSI LITEON Antec AIPTEK www.aiptek.com PQI

Qualified applicants may send their resumes with recent picture and transcript of records to:

Network Essentials Corp.
173 EDSA, G/F CSP Bldg, Mandaluyong City
(Indicate position applied for)

Positions open for Quezon City and Mandaluyong Offices.

Special scholarship for LICENSED NURSE / PHYSICIAN

- Female, Single, between 25 to 33 years old
- With pleasing personality, good moral character
- Physically fit
- Trustworthy, intelligent
- Willing to take Psychological & Medical Evaluation with Polygraph test
- Text or Call 0917-9421263 for further details

A YOUNG AND DYNAMIC IT DISTRIBUTION COMPANY IN PASIG CITY IS URGENTLY IN NEED FOR THE FF POSITIONS:

General Accountant

- Provide timely and accurate financial information for statutory and management purposes
- Institute effective accounting system and internal controls
- Budget preparation and variance analysis
- Ensure compliance with tax regulations and business license and permits
- Handles Cash Flow Projections, Receivable, and Payables

POSITION REQUIREMENTS:
- Candidate must possess a Professional License in Accountancy
- Experience in accounting System and Application
- 1 year above experience in accounting field,
- Knowledge in tax regulation and business permits.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT PERSONNEL

POSITION REQUIREMENTS:
- Preference will be given to candidates with at least 6 months experience selling mobile computing solutions, MP3 Players.
- As a basic qualification, candidates must be graduates of any four- year or five-year course from reputable institutions.
- They must also be articulate with strong organizational skills, target-driven, resource and knowledgeable in networking and server technology.
- Serious consideration will also be given to candidates who has the ability to converse in Chinese language
- Hired candidates will be tasked to achieve sales revenue for the company's products with focus on reseller or dealer accounts.
- As such, they must be able to demonstrate skills in customer relationship management, business development and negotiation.

PROMODIZERS

REQUIREMENTS:
- Male 18 - 25. Atleast 5'7" in height. Good looking and body physique with pleasing personality.
- Required skill(s): has potential in sales
- Applicants must be willing to work in any SM Appliance Stores
- Undergraduate applicants are encouraged to apply.

Interested applicant may submit their resume at jobs@quadtron.com.ph or personally delivered at 1606 The Taipan Place Emerald Ave., Pasig City.

SALES DIRECTOR FOR RADIO AND TV SALES

- 25 to 40 years of age
- A minimum of 5 years experience in an Advertising Agency or other Network Sales experience
- Basic salary Php 50,000.00 plus commission

Please send resume to:

ASIA PACIFIC ADVISORS
SUITE 2106
PS BANK TOWER
SEN. GIL PUYAT AVENUE,
MAKATI CITY

WANTED

SHORT ORDER/FAST FOOD/COFFEE SHOP COOK
- 30 above
- FEMALE/SINGLE
  (Preferably has experience in Rest., Hotels or Resorts)
- Knows how to cook variety of foods

The best bio-data input paper automatically gets the job. We will check you.
Bio-data, 2x2 ID pic., Employment records, NBI & Health Clearance. Willing to stay-in

Mail to: P.O. Box 2720 MCC Makati, M.M. Phils. 1267

The **PHILIPPINE ELECTRICITY MARKET CORPORATION (PEMC)** is a non-profit, private/public partnership tasked to implement and govern the Philippine **WHOLESALE ELECTRICITY SPOT MARKET (WESM)**. The WESM will be the venue for the competitive and transparent trading of electricity.

The restructuring and deregulation of the Philippine electricity industry is a great challenge and we are seeking qualified individuals who are highly-motivated and have a deep sense of integrity and professionalism for the following **CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:**

SHIFT MANAGER

B.S. Engineering (preferred) or Management/Economics with at least 5 years experience or Post graduate in Engineering or Economics with at least 3 years experience in Transmission and Generation Operations / Planning. Relevant experience in Electricity Markets and/or knowledge in conducting load flow studies is strongly preferred but not required. The ideal candidate will also be adequately familiar with the Luzon, Visayas or Mindanao power systems and demonstrate proficiency in the use of text editing, spreadsheet and Database Software.

SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATOR

B.S. Accounting, Finance, Economics or any related field with at least 3 years relevant experience (or Post Graduate with 2 years relevant experience) preferably with knowledge of the electricity industry and a strong finance background.

NETWORK ADMINISTRATOR

B.S. Computer Science or Engineering with at least 3 years work experience or Post graduate with at least 2 years relevant experience in installation, configuration, operation and maintenance of inter-network operating systems of data communications equipment. Successful candidates will have had work experience in the implementation of network security and have had related experience in network system disaster and recovery procedures.

ACCOUNT OFFICER

B.S. in any related course with at least 3 years related work experience (or Post Graduate with at least 2 years relevant experience) preferably with a working knowledge of the electricity industry and a finance and accounting background.

DATA COMMUNICATIONS ENGINEER

B.S. Computer Science or Engineering (B.S. ECE), with at least 3 years work experience (or Post Graduate with at least 2 years relevant experience) in operations and maintenance of voice/data communications systems, Linux/MS Windows based desktop PC's and work stations, technical and business related commercial or in-house developed software, ERP size applications, computer systems disaster and recovery procedures.

SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATOR

B.S. Computer Science or Engineering with at least 3 years work experience (or Post Graduate with at least 2 years relevant experience) in administering and monitoring server operating systems and ensuring security and proper integration of multiple sites, operation and maintenance of multi-tier heterogeneous mid-range UNIX-based and/or mainframe computer systems and installation, configuration and maintenance of Linux/MS Windows operating systems and in computer disaster and recovery procedures.

SOFTWARE ENGINEER

B.S. Computer Science or Engineering with 3 years work experience (or Post Graduate course with at least 2 years relevant experience) in programming procedures and languages for client/server and web environment, developing dynamic web applications, web publishing and server administration, implementing and troubleshooting application, changes and modifications, determining computer problems and coordinate hardware and/or software solutions, computer flowcharts and program logic formulation, operations maintenance of multi-tier heterogeneous mid-range UNIX-based and/or mainframe computer systems.

MARKET OPERATOR

B.S. Engineering with at least 3 years experience (or Post Graduate with at least 2 years relevant experience) in power transmission and generation. Candidates with experience related to Electricity Markets, literate in computer operation and documentation software tools, and with excellent oral and written communication skills are strongly preferred.

PROGRAMMER

Vocational Computer course with an at least 3 years relevant experience (or college degree with 1 year relevant experience) in programming procedures and programming languages for client/server and web environment, experience in implementing and troubleshooting application changes and modifications, determining computer problems and coordinate hardware and/or software solutions, experience in computer flow charts and program logic formulation.

IS/IT TECHNICIAN

Vocational Computer course with at least 3 years relevant experience (or college degree with 2 year relevant experience) in general maintenance and installation of computer and voice/data communication systems. Experience in using office automation software applications (MS Office, AutoCad etc.) a plus.

ACCOUNTANT - Finance Group

C.P.A., B.S. Degree in Business Administration major in Accounting with at least 3-years experience in financial statement preparation and analysis and related work (or Post Graduate with at least 2 years relevant experience). Computer literate, able to work with minimum supervision, has knowledge of the latest BIR rulings and the updated statements of Accounting Standards Council (ASC) and willing to work beyond the regular working hours.

LEGAL ASSISTANT

Degree in any college course with at least 2 year work experience as stenographer and legal secretary. The successful candidate must possess good interpersonal skills and be able to work with minimum supervision.

Successful candidates can expect a fulfilling career and advancement opportunities in a dynamic work environment

Interested applicants may send their application letter (state position/s applied for), curriculum vitae, diploma, transcript of records and relevant supporting documents to:

Rodulfo M. Alfafara
Department Manager
or email: rmalfafara@wesm.ph
Administrative Services Department
9th Floor Robinson's Equitable Tower Ortigas Center Pasig City 1600

OUR CLIENT, ONE OF THE MAJOR GLOBAL LUBRICANT COMPANIES IN THE PHILIPPINES IS SEEKING QUALIFIED CANDIDATES FROM KEY AREAS IN *NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION (NCR)*, *SOUTH LUZON*, *CENTRAL LUZON*, AND *NORTH LUZON* FOR DISTRIBUTORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES.

SELECTED PARTNER-DISTRIBUTOR SHALL BE AWARDED SPECIFIC TERRITORIES AND SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE TO PLAN, DEVELOP, MAINTAIN, AND SERVICE DIFFERENT RETAIL TRADE ACCOUNTS AND OTHER GIVEN TRADE CHANNELS WITHIN SPECIFIED TERRITORY.

INDIVIDUALS OR BUSINESS ENTITIES WHO ARE INTERESTED TO BE A PARTNER OF THIS GLOBAL COMPANY **MUST** SATISFY THE FOLLOWING PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

- ✓ MUST BE WILLING TO ESTABLISH (IF NOT ALREADY EXISTING) A BUSINESS/COMPANY WITHIN AWARDED TERRITORY WHO WILL FOCUS ON THE BUSINESS OF PRODUCT DISTRIBUTION.
- ✓ MUST HAVE ACCESS TO OR ABLE TO CREATE LOGISTICAL SUPPORT FOR THE BUSINESS SUCH AS: WAREHOUSE FACILITY, DELIVERY VEHICLES, SALES TEAM, OFFICE EQUIPMENTS, ETC.
- ✓ MUST HAVE A WORKING CAPITAL OF **P6.0M** TO **P10.0M**, AND IS WILLING TO PUT-UP REQUIRED SECURITY/GUARANTEE.
- ✓ MUST BE A RESIDENT OF THE AREA OR WILLING TO RELOCATE IN OTHER AREAS.
- ✓ BUSINESS OR WORK EXPERIENCE IN CONSUMER GOODS DISTRIBUTION, RETAIL OPERATIONS, OR ANY RELATED BUSINESS IS A **PLUS** FACTOR.

INTERESTED PARTY WHO MEETS ABOVE-MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS MAY SUBMIT A LETTER OF INTENT PLUS BUSINESS CREDENTIALS TO ANY OF THE FOLLOWING ADDRESSES:

MAIL TO:

VENTURESLINK INTERNATIONAL, INC.

ATTENTION: MS. GEENEE MERCADO
VENTURESLINK INTERNATIONAL, INC.
A2 PENTHOUSE PADILLA BLDG., EMERALD AVENUE,
ORTIGAS CENTER, PASIG CITY

OR YOU MAY E-MAIL TO:
hrd@ventureslink.com.ph
madelgado@ventureslink.com.ph

YOU MAY ALSO FAX TO: (02) 687-7249

FOR INQUIRIES OR MORE DETAILS, YOU MAY CALL US AT OUR HOTLINE NO. (02) 633-9709 FOR METRO MANILA AND TOLL FREE NO. 1800-1888-8662 FOR PROVINCIAL AREAS.

ONLY QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS SHALL BE NOTIFIED.

The Quezon City Christian Academy

a Chinese Christian School subscribing to an accelerated individualized education system is looking for:

(2) TEACHERS

- born-again Christian
- preferably with teaching experience.
- BSE Major in Mathematics.

Interested applicants may send their comprehensive resumé to:
52 Mariano Cuenco St. Brgy. Lourdes, Q.C.
or call Tel. Nos. 732-2816; 712-4970

MEGA EXCHANGE

SALES ASSOCIATE

- ☐ Female/Single/below 25 years old
- ☐ At least 2nd year College
- ☐ Must be proficient in English
- ☐ Enthusiastic and of good character
- ☐ Pleasing personality

Apply personally (3:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.; Monday-Thursday) at 4th Floor, CyberZone, SM Megamall Building B, Mandaluyong City. Tel. No. 6332011. Look for Louella Balbiran

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COMMUNITY INNOVATIONS INC.
An AYALA Company

We are new. We are young. We are driven.
We are COMMUNITY INNOVATIONS, INC. and...

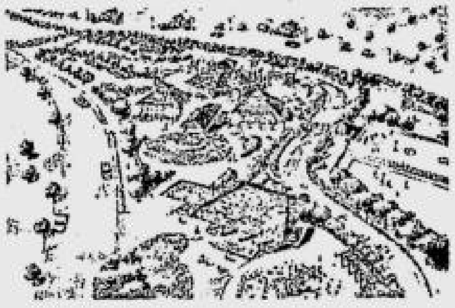
Serendra
An AYALA community

we want you to be part of our growing team as a ...

Property Specialist

If you are energetic, dynamic, flexible and self-driven, you can be one of us. We are looking for young individuals, 21 - 25 years old, with a college degree in business and/or marketing. He/she must be fluent in English, computer literate and a team player.

Verdana Homes
mamplasan



THE COLUMNS
AYALA AVENUE

Verdana Village Center
Where life is richer.

Interested applicants may submit their resume (with colored picture) and transcript of records at the 3/F Tower One Ayala Triangle, Ayala Avenue, Makati City or e-mail to: tandocfrance.cii@ayalaland.com.ph
If you are sending your application via e-mail, please indicate below-mentioned code as your subject, otherwise, the application will not be considered:

01PSCII

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multimedia exponents
a total below-the-line communications company

Be part of the Winning Team in integrated marketing communications!

A leading below-the-line communications company based in Makati is in need of the following:

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES
- Graduates of Marketing, Management, Mass Communication and other related courses
- With significant experience in account management and related fields
- Female, 22-28 yrs old
- Graduates from UP, DLSU, ADMU, UA & P and UST
- With excellent communication skills
- With pleasing personality

ACCOUNTANTS
- Accounting graduates, preferably CPA
- 23 - 26 yrs. old
- With at least 2 yrs. work experience, preferably in the Finance or Accounting Department
- Residents of Makati and surrounding areas are highly preferred

RESEARCH ASSISTANTS
- Graduates of Statistics, Industrial Engineering and other related courses
- Male/Female, 21-30 yrs. old
- Preferably with at least 1 yr. experience in research, process mapping, and other related fields
- Preferably from UP, DLSU; those with scholastic awards are preferred

HR RECRUITMENT & TRAINING OFFICERS
- Graduates of Psychology, Human Resource Management, Behavioral Science and other related courses
- Male/Female, 22-28 yrs. old
- With experience in recruitment, placement and training
- With basic knowledge in SSS, PAG-IBIG and Philhealth applications
- Masters degree or units, a plus

EVENTS & PROMO COORDINATORS
- Graduates of Marketing, Mass Communication and other related courses
- Male/Female, 22-28 yrs. old
- With experience in event and promo management and production-related projects

COMPUTER PROGRAMMERS
- Graduates of Computer Science or Computer Programming
- Excellent scholastic records, those with scholastic awards are preferred
- With at least 2 yrs. work experience on the development of database applications using the following:
  - MS SQL
  - Visual Basic 6.0
  - Crystal Reports
  - Active Server Pages (ASP)

MEDICAL REPRESENTATIVES
- Graduates of medically allied courses / any four-year course
- Male/Female, 20-30 yrs. Old
- With excellent communication skills
- Willing to be assigned within Metro Manila or provincial areas

PROJECT SUPERVISORS
- Graduates of Marketing, Mass Communication, Communication Arts and other related courses
- Male/Female, 20-30 yrs old
- Can handle pressure
- Have supervisory experience in project, event and promo management

PROGRAM FACILITATORS
- Graduates of Communication-related courses
- Female, 20-28 yrs. old
- With pleasing personality
- Preferably with experience in conducting consumer education programs
- Have excellent oral communication skills

PRODUCT CONSULTANTS
- Graduates of any four-year course
- With pleasing personality, fair-skinned
- Female, 20-30 yrs. old
- With excellent communication skills
- Preferably with background in medical sciences
- Willing to be deployed in different areas in Metro Manila

TELEMARKETERS
- Graduates of Communication-related courses
- Male/Female, 20-28 yrs. old
- With excellent communication skills
- Preferably with experience in linkages and customer contact services

MERCHANDISING SPECIALISTS
- At least college level
- Male, 20-30 yrs. old
- Physically fit
- Preferably with driver's license
- Flexible, with good communication skills

Interested applicants may personally bring, fax or e-mail their resumes with 2x2 photos and other credentials to:

THE HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
108 Tordesillas cor. Gallardo Streets, Salcedo Village,
Makati City • Tel No. 812-7108 Fax 753-3712
E-mail: recruitment@mme.ph

The best companies need the best people.
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JOB Market

VISAYAN FORUM FOUNDATION, INC.

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

The *Visayan Forum Foundation, Inc.*, a Manila-based non-government organization (with regional offices in Batangas, Bacolod, Davao and Matnog), that works for the protection and development of marginalized migrants especially domestic workers, trafficked women and children is urgently in need of the following:

(1) REGIONAL COORDINATOR (Davao)

Qualifications:

- College graduate
- Has at least 5 years experience in NGO developmental work, specializing in children's rights, child labor or women's welfare
- Has held a supervisorial/managerial position in the past jobs
- Has the ability to lead and work with a team
- Good in oral and written communications
- Good in project reporting and proposal writing
- Computer literate
- Good interpersonal relations, especially with children

(2) LICENSED SOCIAL WORKERS (Davao)

Qualifications:

- Graduate of social work
- Experience in NGO developmental work, specializing in children's rights, child labor or women's welfare is an advantage
- Extensive experience in case management and handling of children in distress
- Has the ability to work with a team
- Good in oral and written communications
- Computer literate
- Good interpersonal relations, especially with children
- Willing to work stay-in

(1) PUBLICATIONS OFFICER (to be based in Manila)

Qualifications:

- Bachelor degree, preferably in Mass Communications, Creative Writing or other Social Sciences courses
- With initial experience in managing publications such as newsletters, periodicals, journals, etc.
- Preferably with extensive experiences in developmental work, especially with children's and women issues
- Must be computer literate and proficient in Pagemaker or other layouting softwares
- Website design skill is an advantage
- International networking and advocacy background will be highly preferred
- Able to meet deadlines and willing to travel in regional in regional project areas
- Team-worker and can perform multiple tasks with minimum supervision
- Sensitive to the best interest of exploited women and children

Interested applicants may apply personally and bring with them their application letter, together with comprehensive resumé and other credentials. They may also fax, mail, or e-mail their application directly to the:

The Executive Director
Visayan Forum Foundation, Inc.
#2873 Lamayan Street, Sta. Ana, Manila
Tel. Nos.: (02) 562-7821; 562-7810
Telefax: (02) 563-4514
E-mails: admin@visayanforum.org
visforum@pldtdsl.net

Note: Only qualified applicants would be notified. Deadline of submission of application is on or before January 29, 2005.

ERRATUM

In the ad of Visayan Forum Foundation, Inc. which appeared in the Job Market Section of this newspaper last Sunday, January 16, 2005, the word, **Executive Director**, was inadvertently replaced with **Executive Order**. It should have read **"The Executive Director, Visayan Forum Foundation, Inc."**

Our apologies.

WANTED
CALL CENTER AGENT

Apply at Cityland Shaw Tower
Unit 521, Shaw Blvd Mandaluyong
Please bring your resume.
BCIS, Inc. Tel. 9102566 or 6359506
Day Shifts only!

★2005 JOB EXPANSION★

88 GRADUATES, Licensed or Non-licensed

Male/Female, Single/Married, College graduate of any course.
Apply in person with resumé & any original credentials.
Hiring will be on Monday to Saturday, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, January 24 to 29, 2005

APPLY AT:
Suite 1004, West Tower, Tektite Phil. Stock Exchange Center,
Exchange Road, Ortigas, Pasig City
(Back of Megamall near San Miguel Bldg.)

Note: Qualified applicants will start immediately.
Look for Mr. Noel Isidro for interview
"attach this ad to your resumé"

Location: Rapu Rapu (via Legaspi City) is a poly-metallic mine which is currently under construction with metal production commencing mid 2005. Rapu Rapu offers first class facilities, excellent remuneration conditions and a roster that gives you good lifestyle balance.

Rapu Rapu Minerals Inc. is seeking suitably qualified and experienced persons for the following site based positions;

SENIOR SURVEYOR

- Reporting initially to the Chief Surveyor, responsible for safely leading the Mine Survey team, consisting of two mine surveyors, several survey assistants and clerks. This position will work closely with the mining contractor requiring communication skills to be excellent.
- Possess experience and skills required to implement survey control for conventional open pit mining techniques. Main tasks include pit design set out, ore markups, toe/batter checks, grade control drilling pickup and set out, stockpile volumes, and end of month final excavated volume. Producing accurate plans as requested in a timely manner.
- Responsible for developing systems and procedures for all activities undertaken by the Survey Department, including supervision and training Survey personnel. A high regard for safety is essential.
- Possess relevant degree and Geodetic Engineer (or equivalent) qualification. The candidate should have sound experience with mining software.

MINE SURVEYORS

- Reporting to the Senior Surveyor, responsible for undertaking the day to day survey tasks as required to operate the open pit mine.
- Experience in open pit mining although not necessary will be highly regarded. Main tasks include pit design set out, ore markups, toe/batter checks, grade control drilling pickup and set out, stockpile volumes, and end of month final excavated volume. Candidates must be physically fit and willing to work in a challenging environment.
- Must be team player and willing to learn as well as pass on knowledge to less experienced members of the team.
- Be degree qualified, and have had some exposure to mining software packages.

To be the successful applicant for any of these positions you will have a high level of personal integrity, be able to work in a remote location and in a team environment, have proper regard for Safety and Environment and be enthusiastic and dedicated. If that sounds like you and you want a prestigious position with an emerging mining company, please apply in writing before 31st January 2005, to:

The Commercial Manager - Rapu Rapu Project
Suite 21, Legaspi Suites
178 Salcedo St.,
Makati City, Philippines 1229

Elite Garments International, Inc.

owner and manufacturer of established brand names
for the local and export market

ENSEMBLE freeway solo salsa

JR. FASHION MERCHANDISER

- * Loves fashion & knows current trends in ladieswear
- * Will be involved in design dev't & retail merchandising
- * W/artistic background,at least 2-3 yrs work experience
- * Mature, with leadership capabilities
- * Female, below 30 yrs. old, w/ courses in Fine Arts, Advertising, Marketing, Graphic Arts, Fashion Design & related courses

STORE SALES SUPERVISOR

- * Female, 25-30 yrs old, Graduate of any four year course
- * Will be in charge of checking, & implementing proper procedures of store operations
- * At least 2 years experience in retail supervision
- * High sense of customer service orientation
- * With excellent communication, leadership and decision making skills; computer literate
- * Willing to be assigned anywhere and do field work

Send resumé with credentials or fax/e-mail to:
HUMAN RESOURCES DEPT. (HRD)
996 Pablo Ocampo Sr. St. (Vito Cruz) Malate, Manila
Tels. #525-3593/523-0957 Fax # 521-36-71
E-mail: maye@elitegarments.com

One of the most profitable and progressive universal banks in the country, and also among Asia's best companies, is looking for self-driven, highly professional individuals to complement and strengthen its sales force.

If you are a **top** IT or telecoms sales executive, insurance agent, consumer products sales manager, pharmaceutical medical representative or a hotel account executive who can be trained to be a banker:

> (strictly) between 26 and 38 years old
> with a proven track record in sales and marketing gained from current and/or previous employment
> with active/broad-based networks/affiliations
> highly enterprising, motivated and customer service oriented
> computer savvy

YOU SHOULD BE PART OF OUR TEAM!

What is expected of you?

- Achieve sales goals in terms of deposit generation and distribution of other bank products and services
- Creation of new high net worth individual and corporate accounts
- Deepening customer relationships and Broadening customer base

Send your comprehensive resume, transcript of records and recent 2x2 photo to Makati City P.O. Box 1539 or P.O. Box 3152 on or before January 31, 2005

Children are at the heart of everything we do

Plan International, Inc. (known as **Plan**), is an international humanitarian child-centred development organization without religious, political, or governmental affiliation. Plan seeks to achieve lasting improvements in the quality of life of deprived children in developing countries. The organization operates worldwide in 45 developing countries and has been in the Philippines since 1961.

We are currently looking for a highly competent and committed persons for the following senior positions:

SPONSORSHIP & GRANTS SUPPORT MANAGER (SGSM)

Job Function: To achieve the country goals in growth, customer satisfaction, grant and establish effective working link with National Organizations. To develop capacities among Plan staff, partners & communities in building relationship between people of different cultures.

Major Responsibilities:

- Facilitates the design of sponsorship and grants related sections of the Country Strategic Plan
- Manage partnership with various donors and partners
- Establish, implement and monitor accountability standards of effectiveness & efficiency to achieve sponsorship and grant related country goals
- Network with other Plan countries and with other organizations to incorporate best practices and learning into country operations
- Manage corporate sponsorship and grants transactions
- Manage and develop SGSM Unit staff
- Participates in the country management team

Qualifications and Requirements

- Degree in Management, Social Sciences, Development Studies with in-depth knowledge and experience in dealing with child poverty
- 5 year leadership experience in development work
- Strong experience in sponsorship and grants writing &reporting is preferable
- Proven track record in working in partnership
- Must be a Child's Rights advocate
- Excellent written and verbal communications to effectively deal with a widely diverse audience
- A team player who can work well in a multi cultural environment
- Proven ability to lead change efforts
- Skillful in Information System and Technology
- Willing to travel 60% of time

PROGRAM SUPPORT MANAGER (PSM)

Job Function: To develop capacities in program design, implementation and evaluation among Plan staff and program participants, and to support the achievement of country program goals that are aligned with Plan's Domains and Principles.

Major Responsibilities:

- Facilitates the design of program related sections of the Country Strategic Plan.
- Documents and disseminates Plan best practices from within Plan and from other organization to promote quality and learning
- Supports program unit staff in program design and implementation, ensuring technical support is provided
- Facilitates the establishment and implementation of standards of accountability, effectiveness and efficiency in achievement of Plan's Domains and Principles
- Manages and supports in country operations networks for learning and improvement
- Manages and develops program support unit staff
- Participates on the country management team

Qualifications and Requirements

- Advance degree in Economics, Management, Social Sciences, Development Studies with in-depth knowledge and experience in dealing with child poverty
- 7 years in managing integrated community development project
- Possess strong program development skills
- Must be a Child's Rights advocate
- Excellent written and verbal communications to effectively deal with a widely diverse audience
- A team player who can work well in a multi cultural environment
- Proven ability to lead change efforts
- Competence in supervising and managing staff
- Significant experience in Information Technology
- Willing to travel 60% of time

Women are encouraged to apply. Interested applicants are requested to submit to the address below letter of application with two references (not relatives), their address and contact numbers and comprehensive resume in hard copy not later than January 31, 2005. Only short listed applicants will be notified.

HR Manager
Plan Philippines
2nd Floor CJV Bldg., 108 Aguirre St., Legaspi Village, Makati City 1229

"Our policies and procedures always ensure that the welfare of children comes first"

The **Transnational Diversified Group (TDG)** is a Philippine-based conglomerate of dynamic and forward-looking corporations engaged in widely diverse businesses such as Total Logistics, Transportation, Shipping & Cargo Forwarding, Warehousing & Distribution, Ship Management, Maritime E-Training, Medical Services, Travel & Tours, Airline GSA, Aviation Services, Pre-Need Plans, Securities & Investments, Real Estate Development, IT & Business Process Outsourcing Services, E-Business Solutions, and related businesses.

We are looking for highly-motivated and top-caliber individuals to join our expanding organization.

INTERNAL AUDIT MANAGER

- Candidate must be a graduate of BS Accountancy preferably CPA
- Must have at least five (5) years relevant experience in a Senior Managerial level position
- Highly proficient in verbal and written communications
- Must have tax audit experience or Business Process Review
- Must be organized, systematic and have excellent decision-making skills
- Must have excellent people skills and a good team player
- Must have excellent working knowledge of MS Office applications

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES

- Candidates must be a graduate of Marketing, Management or any business-related course
- Must have relevant sales experience in cargo forwarding industries
- Highly proficient in verbal and written communications
- Must have excellent people skills, dynamic, creative and a good team player
- Must know how to drive (preferably has his/her own car)
- Must have working knowledge of MS Office applications

CORPORATE PLANNING OFFICER

- Candidate must be a graduate of Economics, Engineering, Accounting or any business-related course
- Must have at least two (2) years relevant experience in the preparation of project feasibility studies, financial analyses, operations review and business development strategic investment expertise and strategic planning
- Highly proficient in verbal and written communications
- Must have excellent people skills and a good team player
- Must have working knowledge of MS Office applications

ACCOUNTANTS

- Candidates must be a CPA
- Must be organized, systematic and can work with minimum supervision
- Highly proficient in verbal and written communications
- Must have excellent people skills and a good team player
- Must have working knowledge of MS Office applications
- Fresh graduates are welcome to apply

SALES & MARKETING ASSISTANTS/OFFICERS

- Candidates must have a Bachelor's degree
- Results-oriented and can work with minimum supervision
- Highly proficient in verbal and written communications
- Must have excellent customer service skills
- Must have excellent interpersonal and leadership skills
- Must have working knowledge of MS Office applications
- Fresh graduates are welcome to apply

JUNIOR AUDITORS

- Candidates must be a graduate of BS Accountancy preferably CPA
- Must have at least two (2) years relevant work experience
- Highly proficient in verbal and written communications
- Must have unassailable integrity and good sense of right and wrong
- Must have working knowledge of MS Office applications

CORPORATE AFFAIRS OFFICER

- Candidate must be a graduate of Journalism, Communication Arts, Fine Arts, Marketing or Communication Research or any business-related course
- Highly proficient in verbal and written communications, preferably with experience as a Writer or Editor
- Must have excellent work habits, highly flexible, creative and results-oriented
- Must have excellent interpersonal skills
- Must have excellent working knowledge of MS Office applications and Photoshop or its equivalent

BEHAVIORAL TRAINERS

- Candidates must be a graduate of Psychology, Behavioral Science, Industrial Engineering or any business-related course
- Must have at least two (2) years relevant work experience in training and development
- Highly proficient in verbal and written communications
- Must be knowledgeable in the design, conduct and evaluation of training programs
- Must have excellent facilitation and presentation skills
- Must have excellent people skills and a good team player
- Must have working knowledge of MS Office applications

PROJECT SUPERVISOR

- Candidate must be a graduate of Industrial Engineering or its equivalent
- Must have relevant experience in warehousing and logistics
- Highly proficient in verbal and written communications
- Must have excellent people skills and a good team player
- Must have working knowledge of MS Office applications

STAFF ASSISTANTS

- Candidates must have a Bachelor's degree
- BS Nursing (RN), BS Physical Therapy, BS Medical Technology graduates (license) are welcome to apply
- Must be organized, systematic and can work with minimum supervision
- Highly proficient in verbal and written communications
- Must have excellent people skills and a good team player
- Must have working knowledge of MS Office applications

Attractive compensation package, group life insurance, healthcare program and scholarship opportunities await successful candidates.

Interested applicants are requested to submit their comprehensive resume with 2 pcs. 2x2 recent ID photos on or before Wednesday, 09 February 2005 to:

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
TRANSNATIONAL DIVERSIFIED GROUP, INC.
2/F Mary Bachrach Bldg., cor. 25th & A.C Delgado Sts., Port Area, Manila
(Beside the Manila Hotel)
Tel. No. 527-8888 or email us at hrd@tdgworld.com

WANTED

- 2 TELEMARKETING : No diploma required but experience is plus
- 3 SALES EXECUTIVES : Key account - Corporate accounts
1 ACCTG CL/ SECRETARY : CPA with knowledge of QUICKBOOKS
- 1 MERCHANDISER : Familiar with fashion accessories with a strong sense of responsibility.

Send Resumes to : Fax : 6396803 or email: apply@zmgifts.com - No Calls please

BusinessTrends
KELLY SERVICES COMPANY

URGENT REQUIREMENTS

CALL CENTER TEAM LEADERS

College Graduate * Preferably 1 year experienced Team Leaders * Must be proficent in team-handing and performance metrics *

Full-Time positions available

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES
INBOUND and OUTBOUND

Must be willing to work in a CALL CENTER environment * Excellent ENGLISH communication skills * Willing to work on shifting schedules * Minimum educational attainment: 2nd Year College *

300 Full-Time positions available

MANAGERIAL POSITIONS

CALL CENTER OPERATIONS MANAGER
PURCHASING AND SUPPLIES MANAGER
HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER
ACCOUNTING MANAGER
MARKETING AND SALES MANAGER
REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE MANAGER
MERCHANDISE DIVISION MANAGER
MERCHANDISE PLANNING & CONTROL MANAGER
SYSTEMS OPERATIONS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER
STORE MANAGER

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

DATABASE ADMINISTRATOR
SOFTWARE DEVELOPERS (C/C++ * COBOL * JAVA * ORACLE * ASP.NET * VB.NET * C# * VISUAL FOXPRO * PHP)

HEALTHCARE

NURSES
MEDICAL TECHNOLOGISTS
MEDICAL SECRETARIES
LABORATORY TECHNICIANS

SALES

BUSINESS DEV'T OFFICERS
ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES
DEALER COORDINATORS
SALES ASSISTANTS

OFFICE SUPPORT

Executive/Admin Assistant
Receptionist
General Clerk
Encoder

ACCOUNTING

Accounts Analyst
Accounting Assistant
Accounting Clerk
Finance Staff

1603 JOLLIBEE PLAZA, EMERALD AVE.,
ORTIGAS CENTER, PASIG CITY
TEL: (632) 631-3109/47
E-MAIL: btphils2004@spx.com.ph

AAA Garments Services

ASST. OPERATIONS MANAGER

- Graduate of Marketing or any related business course
- At least 2 years extensive exposure in retail sales operations preferably in high fashion ladieswear.
- Possess good communication & interpersonal skills
- With strong leadership qualities & result-oriented

ACCOUNTANT

- Female, Accounting Graduate below 30 years old
- Experience in inventory and retail accounting from a manufacturing & retail industry is a must
- Computer literate, flexible, systematic, hardworking

INDUSTRIAL ENGINEER

- M/F not more than 35 years old
- Graduate of Industrial Engineering
- Must have at lest 3 years work experience in a garment industry
- Experience in line balancing, productivity and efficiency is required
- Strong leadership qualities

MERCHANDISER

- Graduate of Fine Arts, Fashion Designing & Merchandising or Clothing Technology from reputable schools.
- At least 2-3 years of relevant experience in product development, planning, sourcing, inventory & product management acquired from women's apparel garment/retail Industry
- Good leader & result-oriented

ENCODER

- Female, Graduate of Computer Science
- Above-average skills in data encoding
- Adept in different computer software & experience in computer programming is required
- Can work without supervisor, flexible, result-oriented and has attention to details

FASHION SALES CONSULTANTS (FSC)

- Female, Single 18 to 25 years old at least 5'3" in height
- Graduate of any 2nd course or college level
- Service-oriented, honest, smart, articulate and has a pleasing personality and passion for sales
- Willing to work long hours and under pressure

Bring your resumé w/ recent picture & school credentials at:

The HRD, #5 Saint Peter St.,
Brgy. Oranbo, Pasig City

QA SUPERVISOR (Cavite based)

Basic degree in food technology or related course
With at least 1 yr. working experience in line QC work and actual food safety handling

PACKAGING SUPERVISOR (Cavite based)

A college degree in Industrial Engineering or related course
Must have at least 1 yr. working experience in actual food packaging operations and maintenance

Send complete resumé to:
Farmtec Foods, Inc.
Unit 710 Cityland Shaw Tower,
Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong City

or fax to:
636-7420

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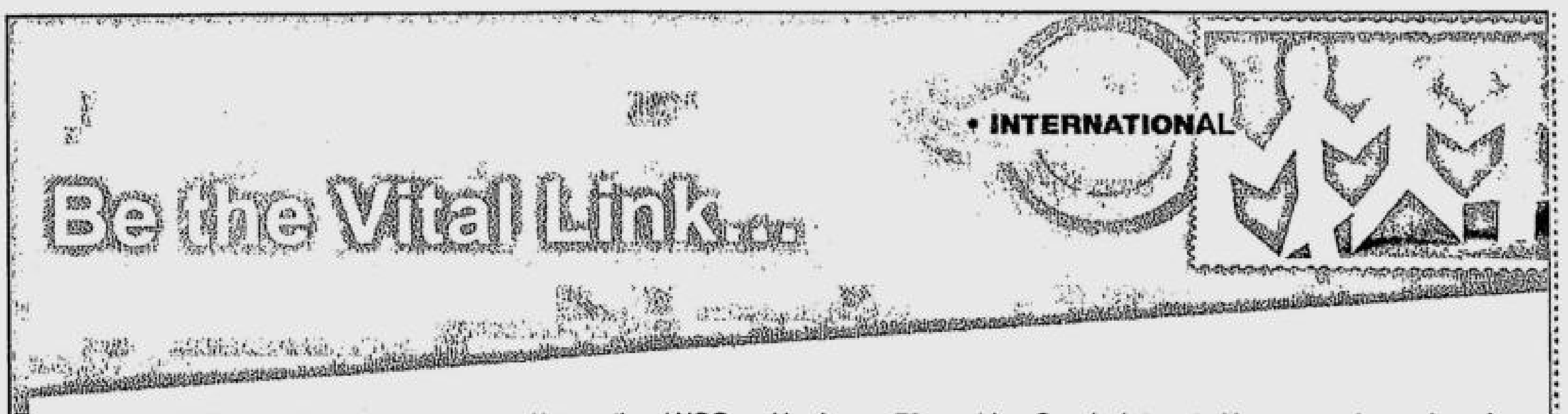
fuzion smoothie cafe
Manila · Singapore · Hong Kong
e-mail to apps@fuzionphils.com

Managers / Asst Mgrs	Marketing & PR Mgrs	Mgt Trainees / Service Crew
• P15 – 40K per mo	• P12 – 20K per mo	• P7K – 14K per mo
• At least 3 years of management experience with restaurant ops	• Experience with PR, graphic design, and local store marketing	• Experience with restaurant ops preferred
• Below 34 yrs old	• Below 30 yrs old	• Below 26 yrs old

EXPORT COMPANY
LOOKING FOR
FOODTECH / CHEMIST / NUTRITIONIST
Celia Efana Tel. No. 682-7168



Oxfam (GB) is a well-known and respected international NGO working in over 70 countries. Our aim is to act with poor people as a force for change in addressing the causes of poverty, suffering, and injustice, and alleviating their symptoms.

Regional Human Resources Advisor – East Asia

Competitive package will be offered to the right candidate

Be influencing and approachable and you can use your Human Resources expertise and excellent communication to develop skills and implement best HR practices in our East Asia region. You must have a commitment to Oxfam GB's overall aims and a commitment to promoting gender equality

Key responsibilities: You will be expected to play a supportive and influencing role within our teams in East Asia by providing your colleagues with sound and creative guidance on all staff issues, ranging from performance management, recruitment and selection, reward management, diversity, employee relations to change management and career development – all of these in the aim to provide advice to staff with a strong emphasis to share best practice and meet organisational standards.

Qualifications: Fluency in English, with full HR qualifications and substantial hands-on HR experience, are essential. Experience of working with multi national teams and across regional teams is also an advantage. Finally, excellent communication and listening skills will equip you with the capacity to support others to work more effectively.

If these challenges inspire you then Oxfam can provide you with a challenging career and the opportunity to be part of a global HR team that is committed to its own continuous professional development.

Vacancy open to Philippine nationals only. Please submit your CV stating your current and expected salary and how your past experiences are relevant to this role, to Human Resources Department at email: **eahr@oxfam.org.uk**
Application deadline: 6th Febraury 2005
Interview dates: 16th & 17th February possibly in Bangkok
(Only short-listed applicants will be contacted)

More information on Oxfam can be found on our website: www.oxfamgb.org/eastasia

Oxfam

DIGITEL

Currently, our company is in need of **CORPORATE ACCOUNT MANAGERS** who will be responsible for acquisition of new accounts, maintenance of existing accounts, retention of existing revenues, total account and territory management, preparation of sales reports and customized proposals.

- DIGITEL is the second largest provider of wire lines in the country in terms of working lines.
- DIGITEL is the country's fastest growing and the largest telecommunications network in Luzon (outside Metro Manila) that utilizes state- of-art technology, with a fully digital backbone and computerized customer support system
- DIGITEL is majority owned by the J.G. Summit Holdings Inc., one of the largest and most diversified conglomerates in the Philippines.

Applicants may submit their curriculum vitae at :

HRRecruitment@digitel.ph
or 110 E. Rodriguez Jr. Avenue,
Libis, Quezon City.

You may also contact Clavelyn H. Draculan at 395-0093 for further inquiries

Senior Corporate Account Manager

- Excellent track record in sales, consistent achiever, assertive, enthusiastic and with initiative
- With existing network of accounts
- With at least 3 years experience in selling business solutions to the corporate market or with equivalent selling experience in the pharmaceutical industry.
- Excellent communication skills in English – oral, written and presentation skills
- Decent and pleasant personality, with professional aura
- Proficient in Word, Excel and Powerpoint
- Willing to work long hours and weekends if necessary

Junior Corporate Account Manager

- Belongs to the top 10% of the graduating class from reputable schools
- Preferably with one year sales experience
- Excellent communication skills in English - oral and written
- Decent and pleasant personality, with professional aura
- Proficient in Word and Excel
- Fast learner, willing to give an extra mile, dedicated and committed
- A consistent achiever, assertive, and enthusiastic.
- Willing to work long hours and weekends when necessary

Start building your career with us and experience stability, unlimited professional growth and a rewarding career!

Extra Joss, an Energy Drink in Powder, one of our clients is looking for **Sales Promotions Executive** for Cabuyao, Pampanga and Iloilo Operations.

We need the following competent individuals to work with our clients on their marketing support activities from planning, project implementation up to the analysis and evaluation of the results thereof.

Qualifications:

SALES PROMOTION EXECUTIVE
(Supervisory Position)

- Male / Female
- Age 27-35 years old
- College graduate (preferably Management graduate)
- Have experienced working in the distributor or principal.
- Honest, independent & hard working.
- Flexible to socialize & creative.
- Have knowledge to handle people

Please send your application letter, comprehensive resumé stating salary history, 2x2 picture and transcript of records at:

DANCERG MARKETING
AND PROMOTIONS SERVICES
3rd Floor, FCC Building
7494 Santillan Street, Makati City

For Iloilo applicants Interview will be on February 1, 2005.
Please contact Raquel Galve at 500-5962;
Cel No. 0920-2606646

HANDS ON MANILA

HANDS ON MANILA FOUNDATION, INC.

RESOURCE MOBILIZATION DIRECTOR
JOB DESCRIPTION

The Resource Mobilization Director of Hands On Manila will be in charge of all fundraising and resource generation functions as designed and planned by the Board's Fundraising Committee. Supervised by the Executive Director, the Resource Mobilization Director will be responsible for the implementation of fundraising activities including, but not limited to the following:

Corporate Partnerships

- Prepare corporate presentations
- Coordinate and present fundraising projects to corporations
- Liaise with and maintain corporate relationships
- Design corporate volunteer programs
- Assist in marketing holiday corporate give-aways for fundraising

Institutional Fundraising

- Develop and prepare grant proposals
- Identify and explore available grants from funding institutions
- Conceptualize and organize fundraising events
- Assist in the design, production and sales of HOM merchandise for fundraising

Qualifications:

1. Preferably with a BS in Marketing or Business Administration
2. Familiarity with developmental work
3. Experience in writing, preferably in preparing grant proposals
4. Must possess communication and presentation skills
5. Organizational skills necessary to address the corporate partners' requirements
6. Team worker
7. Flexible

Applicants must submit an application letter addressed to the Executive Director with a 2x2 photo and comprehensive resume on or before January 31, 2005. You may send applications via email to handsonmla@edsamail.com.ph, fax 843-7044 or send to LP 10 Medical Plaza Building, Amorsolo corner Dela Rosa Street, Legaspi Village, Makati City.

Are you looking for
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stability?

Are you searching
for a job that will
satisfy your needs?

Well, here at
Teleperformance
we have the **answers**
to all your **questions.**

CALL CENTER AGENTS (CCA 0123)

Excellent written and verbal communication skills
Ability to communicate in English effectively
Willing to work in varying shifts including graveyard
Typing speed (minimum of 25wpm)
Highly knowledgeable in Microsoft office
and Internet explorer

(We also accept part-time CCA)

TECHNICAL SUPPORT ENGINEER (TSE0123)

Basic Network (Data) and Telecoms Troubleshooting
Familiarity with the Avaya switch
Knowledgeable in Windows and Linux Server
Basic Troubleshooting on Workstation Hardware
Familiarity with different services such as Mail,
NTP, FTP, DHCP, active directory both under
Windows and Linux
Minimum of one (1) year experience

Interested applicants are advised to
APPLY IN PERSON in BUSINESS ATTIRE.
Monday-Friday 8:00AM - 5:00PM

HUMAN RESOURCE DEPARTMENT
4/F Octagon Building, San Miguel Ave.,
Ortigas Center, Pasig City

email: careers@teleperformance.ph
website: www.teleperformance.ph

Teleperformance
GLOBAL CUSTOMER RELATIONSHIP MANAGEMENT

INQUIRER
JOB Market
SUNDAY, JANUARY 23, 2005
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www.jobmarketonline.com

JOB*Market* is exclusively for job advertisements.
This special section comes FREE with your copy of the PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER published every Sunday and distributed in key cities
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DEADLINES
for reservations / cancellations / corrections
Thursday 12:00 noon

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DIVISION
e-mail address: jobmarket@inquirer.com.ph
Main Office: Pasong Tamo, Makati City
☎ 8994427 (Direct) ☎ 8978808 (Trunk) Fax 8978425
G/F Atrium Bldg., Makati Ave., Makati City
☎ 8114361 ☎ 8114370 ☎ 8114012 Fax 8925578
St. Anthony's Bldg., Aurora Blvd., Quezon City
☎ 9129008-11 Fax 9129011
SM Megamall, Mandaluyong City
☎ 6350219 ☎ 6872354 ☎ 6872366 Fax 6350220
G/F Trinity Bldg., 636 T.M. Kalaw St., Manila
☎ 5273342 ☎ 5224406 ☎ 5276357 Fax 5280213
Alabang, Muntinlupa City
☎ 8424503 ☎ 8506465 Fax 8506465

Text us your feedback: Inquirer jm name/city/message. Send to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

SM SUPERMALLS · SM FOODCOURT · SM BOWLING CENTER · SM ICE SKATING · SM CINEMA · Storyland

OPENING IN 2005!!!

SAN LAZARO • VALENZUELA • MALL OF ASIA • MOLINO • STA. ROSA

If you are residents of Metro Manila, Bulacan, Pasay City, Cavite and Laguna who want to build a career with us, then take the challenge and grow with us !!!

ASSISTANT/MALL MANAGERS
- With extensive experience in the areas of management, customer service and tenant relations
- Background in building administration or mall operations, property, safety and security management will be an advantage
- Must be results-oriented, dynamic, energetic and have proven leadership abilities; keen on details

SENIOR/MARKETING MANAGERS
- With five years extensive managerial experience in marketing management, advertising, promotions and events
- Graduates of Marketing, Communication Arts or any four-year business course
- Innovative, modern and updated on market trends

HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGERS/SUPERVISORS
- Graduates of Behavioral Science or related courses
- With extensive experience in HR functions, i.e., recruitment compensation and benefits, performance management and employee relations
- Knowledgeable of the Labor Law
- Hardworking and challenge seeker

ACCOUNTING MANAGERS/OFFICERS
- Certified Public Accountants for Managers/preferably CPA for Officers
- With managerial experience in all facets of accounting and auditing management
- With supervisory experience preferably with auditing background for accounting officers.
- Hardworking

TREASURY MANAGERS
- Two years managerial experience in all facets of cash/funds management or treasury functions, preferably gained in a banking institution
- Preferably CPAs or with accounting background
- Graduates of any four-year business course

LEASING MANAGERS/SUPERVISORS
- With experience in property/tenant management, primarily tasked to scout prospective mall tenants and processing of lease approvals; monitors areas for lease
- Graduates of any four-year course; background in Marketing, Operations or Accounting will be a plus

FOODCOURT/BOWLING CENTER/ICE SKATING/CINEMA MANAGERS/SUPERVISORS
- With experience in fast-food/restaurants/cinema operations or amusement centers
- Graduates of any four-year business course

CUSTOMER RELATIONS SERVICE MANAGERS/SUPERVISORS
- With experience in security and safety operations, preferably in a mall/retail business enterprise
- Graduates of Criminology or any related course
- 5'2" in height for females and 5'6"in height for males for supervisors

VISUAL DISPLAY MANAGERS/OFFICERS
- Three years managerial experience/two years related supervisory experience for Officers in art works, preferably in a retail business enterprise
- Graduates of Architecture or Fine Arts, major in Interior Design

SYSTEMS ANALYSTS/PROGRAMMERS
- Three years managerial experience in computer programing
- Graduates of computer science/engineering

BUILDING ADMINISTRATION/TENANT RELATIONS OFFICERS/ RESIDENT ENGINEERS
- With experience in property/tenant management and/ or building administration
- Graduates of Mechanical/Electrical/Civil Engineering/Architecture

DESIGN OFFICERS
- Graduates of Architecture, or with two years experience in architectural design and drafting

PUBLIC RELATIONS/MARKETING OFFICERS
- One year experience in multimedia advertising, promotions and events
- Graduates of Communications Arts, Marketing, Fine Arts, or any related four-year course
- Innovative, modern and sensitive to market trends

TREASURY OFFICERS/ SUPERVISORS
- With experience in cash management functions
- Graduates of any four-year business course

NURSES
- Must be registered
- Preferably with experience in industrial or hospital setting

WAREHOUSE SUPERVISORS
- With warehousing background
- Graduates of any four-year business course

OPERATIONS SUPERVISORS
- At least one year supervisory experience in a service-oriented company
- Graduates of any four-year business course

ITS ASSOCIATES
- Experience in repair, troubleshooting and maintenance of cash registers is an advantage
- Graduates of Electronics or Computer Engineering
- Willing to work on shifting schedule

OFFICE ASSISTANTS
(ACCOUNTING/HUMAN RESOURCES/TREASURY ADMINISTRATION/CUSTOMER SERVICE/OPERATIONS)
- Graduates of BS Accountancy, Psychology/Behavioral Science, or any four-year business course

Interested applicants who:

POSSESS EXCELLENT COMMUNICATION SKILLS • ARE COMPUTER LITERATE • ARE CUSTOMER-ORIENTED AND PEOPLE-ORIENTED

may send resumé with 2" x 2" recent ID picture:

Sr. Assistant Vice President-Human Resources
SHOPPING CENTER MANAGEMENT CORPORATION
SM Corporate Offices, Bldg. B, 1000 Bay Boulevard
SM Central Business Park, Bay City, Pasay City
Or e-mail to jmm@smsupermalls.com

The
Hortaleza
Salon

JOIN

Be part of our growing company that nurtures strong values for mutual success. We are looking for highly motivated / dependable professionals to join our company in our expansion program.

ACCOUNTING HEAD
M/F, 26-35 years old, must be CPA with minimum of five (5) years working experience. Computer Literate. Excellent Communication, interpersonal and leadership skills. With good moral character.

ACCOUNTING CLERK
Male, at least 23 yrs. old, w/ at least 2 yrs. experience in related job. Graduate of B.S.C. in Accounting & computer literate. Dedicated, self-motivated and result-oriented.

WAREHOUSE MANAGER
Male, at least 23 years old, college graduate. With at least 1 year experience as Warehouse Manager. Must be honest, hardworking and with leadership ability.

TRAINOR/TEACHER
M/F, 30-40 yrs. old, well-rounded in the Salon Business. Must have knowledge in basic haircutting & hair-coloring. Can communicate well in English and Tagalog. Willing to work long hrs., personable and very enthusiastic. Can relate well with all types of personality.

HRD OFFICER (2)
Female, at least 28 years old, w/ 2-3 yrs. min. experience as Personnel Officer. Graduate of B.S. Psychology or 4 years Business course. Computer Literate and can work with minimum supervision.

Applicants may apply and bring their resumé
with 2x2 ID picture:
15 Brgy. Daan Bakal, Shaw Blvd.
Mandaluyong City.
Tel. Nos. 531-6241 / 531-2892

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

An importer and exclusive distributor of several tire and motor oil brand and interior finishes offers a competitive package to qualified applicants for the following:

SALES OFFICERS / REPRESENTATIVES
- Male or Female, 21-32 yrs old
- College graduate
- With productive experience in selling consumer items
- Honest, hardworking and with excellent communication skills
- Must have a valid driver's license

APPLICANTS MUST SEND THEIR RESUMÉS WITH TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDS and 2X2 PICTURE TO:

TASCO, INC.
No. 70 20th Avenue, Project 4, Quezon City
Phone Nos. 9130102 to 04
e-mail address: frb_tasco@pacific.net.ph

AIG **AIG Credit Card Company Philippines, Inc.**

We are looking for young, dynamic and results-oriented individuals to join our **TEAM** of:

SALES SPECIALISTS

- Graduate of any business-related course
- One (1) year experience in sales; fresh graduates with sales inclination are also welcome to apply
- Knowledge in sales planning and development of creative and effective sales strategies
- Excellent interpersonal relations and communication skills
- Assertive, street smart and a team player
- Willing to do field work
- Computer literate

Competitive compensation package and excellent career opportunities and growth within the organization await the successful candidates.

Interested applicants may apply personally or send their resume, transcript of records and latest 2x2 photo to this address no later than February 4, 2005 :

Human Resources Division
16F San Miguel Properties Center,
St. Francis Avenue, Mandaluyong City
E-mail: AIGPHCC_Recruitment@aig.com

Hewitt

People Solutions that make Sense

OUR MISSION
To excel, around the world, at helping our clients and their people succeed together

HEWITT ASSOCIATES (NYSE:HEW) is a global human resources outsourcing and consulting firm delivering a complete range of human capital management services to companies including HR and Benefits Outsourcing, HR Strategy and Technology, Organizational Change, Retirement and Financial Management, and Talent and Reward Strategies.

Our associates have been instrumental in developing innovative solutions that have helped our clients become some of the most successful companies in the world: Today, our client roster includes more that half of FORTUNE 500® companies and more than a third of FORTUNE Global 500 companies.

As the largest multi-service HR delivery provider in the world, we handle more than 54 million HR related customer interactions a year from more than 17 million participants

We are looking for associates in the field of Human Resources Outsourcing who will be responsible for partnering with clients in evaluating, migrating and implementing effective HR Outsourcing solutions.

Role 1 : HR Outsourcing Operations Lead – The Philippines

This role is a highly leveraged one which necessitates demonstrating a depth of technical expertise in area of Payroll, Benefits and other forms of HR Outsourcing. The incumbent will be responsible for identifying and winning significant client opportunities in the area of HR Outsourcing, primarily Payroll and Benefits administration in the Philippines and will carry a revenue target. The incumbent will provide clients with expert technical strategy and insight. Additionally he/she will act as a strong project leader for large, complex client assignments and will be responsible for generating a significant portion of business revenue and, in addition to delivering quality work, are expected to contribute thought, client and people leadership. This role is based in Manila but will entail international and local travel on an as needed basis.

The ideal candidate will have experience in some or all of these areas : Human Resources Operations, HR Outsourcing, IT Outsourcing, Project Management, Business Development

Role 2 : HR Outsourcing Delivery Manager

The HR Outsourcing Delivery Manager will be responsible for partnering with specific clients in migrating and implementing effective Payroll and Benefits administration solutions. Once the systems are in place, this role will also supervise ongoing delivery on a recurring basis. This role is a supervisory role and will entail managing a team of people working at the client site. This role is based in Cabuyao, Laguna.

The ideal candidate will have experience in some or all of these areas : Human Resources Operations, Payroll and Benefits Administration, Project Management

Role 3 : IT Support, Lead

Will be responsible for providing technical support for desktop and laptop users in the Manila office. Will also be providing 1st level technical support for the office's Network equipment (i.e. Network Switches, Router, Firewall, etc), Compaq/HP Servers used as File & Print server, Lotus Notes, and ARCServe Server. The associate will engage in technical resolution of issues encountered by end users of the above mentioned IT Equipment. At times this person will be required to provide support to other offices in South East Asia and/or Australia.

The ideal candidate will have 5-6+ years of experience in the field of IT Support with working knowledge of MS Windows 2000/2003 servers, HP printer support, MS Office suite, Lotus Notes, Novell Netware.

To Apply:

Please send application and full resume by email to: **K Search Asia Consulting Inc, c/o Ruby Barcelona, 22/F 139 Corporate Center, 139 Valero St., Salcedo Village, Makati City**
Or
Email to **rubib@ksearchasia.com** or Fax to **8936259**
Only shortlisted candidates will be notified

www.hewittasia.com
www.hewitt.com

ROVI MULTI-PRODUCTS, INC.

Our company is located in Parañaque and we are engaged in the manufacture, sale and installation of solid, engineered and laminated wood flooring.
We are in immediate need of the following qualified personnel

I. Construction Site Project Manager

Must be a licensed Civil Engineer or Architect with at least 10 years experience. Candidate shall be responsible in the overall coordination with the client in execution of the contract and ensure the smooth and timely delivery of works and other project submittals. He / She shall be responsible in all communications, documentations and other administrative concerns related to the project and maintain good and harmonious relationship with client.
Must know Microsoft Manager or other project management software.

II. Construction Site Architects / Engineers

Architecture or Civil Engineering Graduate
Must have at least 3 years work experience and will be responsible in supervising site works and making sure works done according to contract requirements.

III. Quality Control Architects / Engineers

Architecture or Civil Engineering Graduate
Must have at least 3 years work experience and will be responsible in making sure that all materials and works are in accordance with project specifications for quality.

NOTE : Above Candidates for item I to item III will be assigned in Makati City project and must be good in Microsoft Word & Excel. Candidates must have valid driver's license.

IV. Area Sales Manager and Sales Executives

College Graduate and experienced in sales of architectural products such as floorings, doors and windows, lights, etc. will be assigned specific areas for sales saturation. Computer literate in MS WORD and EXCEL
Must know how to drive vehicle & with valid driver's license

V. Accounting Supervisor

Minimum 5 years experience in all facets of accounting procedures and well versed
In all aspects of accounting documentation, methods procedures and government reporting requirements. Must be computer literate specifically in excel and other accounting software

VI. Accounting Assistant

Minimum 2 years experience in accounting and inventory works.
Must be computer literate in Word, Excel and other accounting software

VII. Secretary / Executive Assistant

Female 22 years old and above ; Graduate of any four-year course
Minimum experience of two (2) years as executive assistant
With excellent communication skills
Computer Literate (MS WORD, EXCEL, INTERNET)

VII. Wood Floor Manufacturing Plant Supervisor

College or Vocational Graduate and must possess supervisory skills
Knowledge in hydraulic pumps, electric motors and heating elements
Experience in wood processing operations is an advantage
Computer Literate with Knowledge in MS WORD and EXCEL

VIII. Warehouse Man

With experience in on-site construction and in-house warehousing
Computer Literacy in MS Word and Excel is an advantage

IX. Company Electrician

With experience in building and machineries electrical installations
Motor rewinding and minor tools repair

Interested parties may send their application by snail mail, email, fax or delivered in person to...**7828 Beachwood St. Phase II, Marcelo Green Village, Parañaque City Fax: (02) 823-5203 email: rovimultiproducts@yahoo.com**

Mega Magazines & Publications, Inc., the country's premiere style source - from fashion, lifestyle, beauty, home, architectural designs & food, is looking for:

Advertising Account Executive

Requirements.
1. At least one year sales experience, preferably in an advertising agency
2. 20-27 years old, with pleasing personality.
3. A degree in Business Administration, Marketing, Advertising or any related course

Librarian

Requirements.
1. Has excellent grades in Library Science or any related course of a reputable school
2. Has excellent command of the English Language
3. Must be computer savvy
4. Must be talented, artistic, hardworking and disciplined
5. Must be able to set – up and maintain the library
6. Must be able to create a database of the library

Art Director

Requirement
1. A graduate of Fine Arts major in Advertising or any related course of a reputable school
2. Knowledgeable in Quark Express, Freehand, and Adobe Photoshop
3. Knowledgeable in color separation
4. With background in Photo Art Direction
5. Preferably MAC – based

Graphic Artist

Requirement..
1. A graduate of Fine Arts major in Advertising or any related course of a reputable school
2. Knowledgeable in Quark Express, Freehand, and Adobe Photoshop

Brand Associate

Requirement..
1. 25 – 35 years old
2. At least 3 years or experience in the field of Marketing/Brand Management
3. A degree in Business Administration, Marketing, Advertising or any related course or any equivalent experience in the same field

Fashion & Beauty Associate

Requirements:
1. 25 35 years old
2. Stylish and updated with the latest fashion & beauty trends
3. With writing skills

Interested applicants may send and/or e-mail their comprehensive curriculum vitae, cover letter and recent 2x2 photo to:

Jennifer Jean J. Virgino
Human Resources Manager
Mega Magazines & Publications, Inc.
18th Floor Strata 100 Building
Emerald Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Email: hr_mmpi@yahoo.com

Be Part of our

Dino's Dimsum Delights food cart

Franchise Program

We are inviting interested entrepreneurs who have the following capabilities to be our **BUSINESS ASSOCIATE**

- Business Minded
- Financially Capable
- Can comply with set operations standards

Telemarketers

- Part time / Full time
- English proficiency is a MUST

Interested parties may contact **Girlie** from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday to Friday at 416-0838.

Expresso Carts Inc.
Unit 2D The West Wing Bldg.
107 West Avenue Quezon City
email: expressocarts@skydsl.com.ph

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cinderella

CINDERELLA GROUP, a leader among fashion retailers in the Philippines, would like to invite highly qualified individuals to join and be part of the Re-Engineered Dynamic and Creative Management Team.

MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER

- Female; 25-35 years old, creative; works under pressure
- Mass Communication; Advertising or Marketing graduate
- At least 5 years experience in fashion retailing/ food industry and/ or advertising agencies
- Extensive knowledge and experience in Marketing Trends; advertising requirements; conceptualization and implementation of marketing plans and programs; brand positioning; promotions and launching campaigns and fashion trends.
- Can develop creative and effective advertising concepts
- Highly articulate with exposure in PR, advertising, marketing and market research
- Has passion for fashion; strong organizational skills

MERCHANDISE MANAGER/ BRAND MANAGER

- Female; 25-35 years of age
- Graduate of any business related course preferably with MBA degree/ units
- Minimum of two years experience in product management and development of fast moving consumer products in a managerial capacity
- Must be analytical, results-oriented, artistic, and creative with good fashion sense
- With excellent oral and written communication skills
- Financial awareness-bottomline driven; willing to travel

CONSIGNMENT MANAGER

- Female; 25 – 35 years of age
- Graduate of any business-related course; preferably with MBA units
- With at least 3-5 years experience in consignment operations from a retailing company
- Resourceful in marketing for consignors/ clients; with excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- Able to conceptualize and implement attainable sales projections
- Must have extensive knowledge in merchandising trends and new product lines in the market

STORE MANAGERS

- Female; 25 - 30 years of age
- Bachelor's degree holder; with at least three (3) years managerial and/ or five (5) years supervisory experience in retail business
- Excellent organizational and people-handling skills
- Computer literate and highly results/ sales oriented
- Responsible for the overall management of the store to achieve targeted goal and maintain efficiency and effectiveness of store operations

Qualified applicants may send or email their comprehensive Resume' with 2x2 picture and transcript of records at:

The HRMD
Cinderella Marketing Corporation
825 Edsa, Quezon City
email add: cinderella_job@yahoo.com

A growing law firm is in need of a junior lawyer, preferably below 30. Interested parties may send their biodata/resumes along with their contact number or e-mail address to: **502 Sta** [illegible] **Condominium I, 188 Salcedo Street, Legaspi Village, Makati City.**

BE PART OF A GROWING COMPANY

We are one of the largest computer software and peripherals distribution company throughout the Asia-Pacific Region.

In view of our expanding operations for the year 2005, we are looking for the right candidates to fill in the following positions:

MARKETING MANAGER (1)
Graduate of Marketing or any Business course
At least two (2) years experience in the same position
With strong marketing background preferably in IT
Highly creative and analytical in program conceptualization and experienced in leading a telemarketing team

ACCOUNT MANAGERS- SALES (2)
Graduate of any IT or Business course
Highly flexible and persistent with good communication skills
Selling experience in IT preferred

LOGISTICS OFFICER (1)
Graduate of any Business course
Knowledge of basic accounting and computer required
Experience in importation procedure will be an advantage
At least two (2) years related working experience

ENTERPRISE SOLUTIONS ENGINEER (1)
Graduate of Computer/Telecommunications Engineering
Skilled in TCP/IP, LAN and WAN design/implementation
Well-versed with RedHat Linux, Win 95/98, Netscreen, Checkpoint, PIX, Windows NT/2000 and ISA
At least one (1) year experience in related field

ENTERPRISE SOLUTIONS ACCOUNT MANAGER (1)
Graduate of Computer/Telecommunications Engineering, Marketing or Business course
Knowledge of Internet Security Products required
At least one (1) year experience in related field

Qualified applicants may submit their resumes to

24th Floor Trident Towers
312 Sen. Gil Puyat Ave. Makati City
Email: info@acapacific.com.ph

We want you to be a part of our family!

1. **Project Manager**
2. **Project Engineer**
   - Licensed CE
3. **Research & Dev't Engineer**
4. **QC Engineer**
   - Graduate of Architecture or any Engineering Course
5. **Cost Engineer**
   - Any Engineering Course

Note: For positions 1-5, we prioritize those with experience in high-rise building

6. **Ads & Promo Officer (Tiangge Event Organizer)**
   - College graduate with at least 2 years work related experience preferably in retail/mall operations
   - Can communicate & conceptualize effective marketing strategies, plans & programs
7. **Marketing Officers (for hotel/resort, condotel & tiangge)**
   - With good marketing contacts
   - Salary commensurate to qualifications
   - At least 2 years experience
8. **Administrative Assistant**
   - Female/Male, with experience in office administration & property management
   - Technical background an advantage
9. **Programmer**
   - At least 3 years experience preferably in hotel/resort industry, realty and mall operations
   - With working knowledge in VB NET
10. **Front Office Clerks**
    - Male/Female, with excellent communication skills & pleasing personality

Please send resumé with ID picture to:

ASB Center at 114 Benavidez St., Legaspi Village, Makati City
or call 893-4249 or e-mail to: asb_hrd@yahoo.com

Link2Support
www.link2support.com
100001
1011110100001

We're inviting qualified team players to be part of our growing family!

Contact Center Group:

Call Center Operations Managers
To manage the production performance of all product support teams in the Contact Center Operations to ensure that client required service levels and productivity targets are met
- *Bachelor's degree in Computer Science/Engineering/ECE and other IT/engineering related courses supplemented by an MBA or other related degree from a reputable school*
- *Progressively responsible experience in a technical support environment and other related fields in a managerial capacity*

Quality Assurance Managers
To propagate a quality conscious mindset throughout the organization and install management systems and structures that will promote quality service.
- *Bachelor's degree in any course preferably in Industrial or Management Engineering supplemented by MBA/MA units*
- *5 years experience in Quality Assurance or running a Quality Management program, 3 years of which in a supervisory/managerial capacity in a technical support/call center environment.*

Project Managers
To manage all the activities towards opening, maintaining an account, translating a specific account into an operational program in coordination with Product Support and manage account-related projects.
- *Bachelor's degree in Computer Science/Engineering/ECE and other IT/engineering related courses*
- *At least 2 years of proven track record in project management preferably in the contact center/customer service environment*

Workforce Management Supervisors
To oversee the duties of the Workforce Management Team involving forecasting, scheduling, and monitoring agent's daily performance and ensure that there is sufficient manpower for 24x7 operations.
- *Bachelor's Degree in a related course, preferably in Industrial/Management/Electronics and Communications/ Computer Engineering*
- *Three years experience in Workforce Planning and Management, at least 1 year of which in a supervisory/senior level in a call center environment*

Quality Assurance Supervisors
To supervise a team of QA staff to ensure that quality and efficiency standards are met and customer satisfaction is achieved
- *Bachelor's degree in any course preferably in Industrial or Management Engineering*
- *3 years experience in Quality Assurance or running a Quality Management program, one year of which in a supervisory/senior level position in a technical support/call center environment*

Operations Analysts
To gather and analyze production and other relevant data that impacts on the Company's continued growth and operations and conduct of special project studies and researches, industry studies/trend analysis, and monitoring.
- *Bachelor's degree in Industrial Engineering, Statistics, Finance, Business or other related courses*
- *At least 2 years of progressively responsible experience in operations analysis, business research and other related fields*

Product Support Representatives
To handle inbound calls regarding installation and troubleshooting of computer networking devices.
- *Bachelor's degree in Computer/Electronics and Communications Engineering or any related discipline, graduates of a 2 year technical course or at least 3rd year college level for a 4 year degree course and 4th year level for a 5 year degree course of any computer or engineering-related courses are also encouraged to apply*
- *Excellent English communication skills (oral and written)*
- *Open for FULL-TIME/PART-TIME STATUS*

Customer Service Representatives
To handle incoming calls and process customers' requests for replacements of computer networking products.
- *Graduate of any course or at least 3rd year college level for a 4 year degree course and 4th year level for a 5 year degree course of any field*
- *Excellent English communication skills (oral and written)*

Support Group:

Administration Specialists
To plan, organize, control and direct the various facilities management activities of the Company such as purchasing, inspection, deliveries, storekeeping and property control.
- *Bachelor's degree in Electrical/Mechanical/Civil Engineering or other related courses*
- *At least 6 months work experience in facilities management, purchasing, warehousing and inventory control or other similar activities*
- *Licensed Engineers are added advantage*

HR Specialists
To handle a team involved in recruitment; selection and placement; and organization development and training activities.
- *Bachelor's degree in Psychology/HR Management/Social Sciences/Industrial Relations or other related courses*
- *At least 1 year experience as HR generalist with same capacity/level*

Accounting Specialists
To maintain accounting systems and related procedures, corporate books of accounts and other accounting records; prepare financial statements and other external reports.
- *Bachelor's degree in Business Management or Accountancy*
- *At least 1 year experience in performing Accounting functions*

Administration Assistants
To perform property management, asset inventory; purchasing; storekeeping activities and general administrative tasks.
- *Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration, Commerce, Management or any related course; or licensed Electrical Engineering and Mechanical Engineering*

HR Assistants
To provide the needed manpower support to operations by hiring competent people, generating pool of applicants for different positions to meet the operations' target.
- *Bachelor's degree in Psychology, Human Resource Management, Behavioral Science or any related course*

Accounting Assistants
To prepare financial reports, process payments and document finances.
- *Bachelor's Degree in Business Management or Accountancy*
- *At least 6 months experience in performing Accounting functions*

MIS Assistants
To ensure that the administration; implementation and maintenance of the Company's network infrastructure is at optimum level at all times as required in the production floor.
- *Bachelor's degree in Computer Science/Computer Engineering or other related course*
- *At least 6 months work experience in computer hardware/ networking*

Junior Programmers
To develop and maintain software applications to support specific needs of operations and support personnel.
- *Bachelor's degree in Computer Science/Computer Engineering or any related course*
- *One year work experience in programming and software development*

Company Nurses
To administer nursing care to employees and provide assistance in the processing of health benefits
- *Licensed Nurse*

let's talk
TECH

Teamwork Excellence Customer Focus Honesty

CONTACT US

Link2Support, Inc.
HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
5th Floor TechnoPlaza One Building,
Orchard Road, Eastwood City
CyberPark, 188 E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave.,
Bagumbayan, Quezon City
Phone #: +(63)2 4238700 loc 8908
Email: recruitment@link2support.com

SAINT MARY'S ANGELS COLLEGE OF PAMPANGA

San Pedro, Santa Ana, Pampanga

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING!

INSTRUCTORS

- **Who are Graduates of Master of Arts (MA) / Master of Sciences (MS) in Related Discipline in:**
  - *Information Technology*
  - *Civil Engineering*
  - *Hotel & Restaurant Management (HRM)*
- **Who are Graduates of Bachelor of Secondary Education (preferably with full-pledged MA in Related Discipline) with Majors in:**
  - *Mathematics*
  - *Science*
  - *English*
  - *Physical Education (MAPE)*
  - *Social Sciences*
  - *Filipino*
- **Who are Graduates of Bachelor of Elementary Education (preferably with full-pledged MA in Related Discipline) with Area of Concentration in:**
  - *General Education*
- **Who can teach:**
  - *Professional Education Subjects*

Please apply at SMACP Compound, Quezon Road corner Bgy. San Roque, Pampanga or call at 045-8752368 ☎ 0917-5103489 ☎ 02-2942395
Look for Ms. Agnes or Ms. Lerry

A Global Leader in Information and Communications Technology is recruiting for its expansion program IT Professionals and Administrative staff who are *innovative, creative, hard working* and *team players.*

- Project Managers
- Marketing Managers
- Account Managers / Account Executives
- Sales / Marketing Personnel
- Telemarketing Personnel
- Human Resource Dept. Supervisor / Assistants
- Accounting Personnel
- System Analysts
- System / Network Administrator
- Database Administrator
- Web Programmers (ASP, ASP.net, JAVA)
- Web Developers
- Computer Engr. / Technicians
- Art Director (with Graphic Studio or Agency experience)
- Graphic Designers
- Copy Writers
- Computer Secretaries
- Receptionists
- IT / Computer Trainors

Qualifications:
- *Degree in Information Technology or any computer studies, or any course relevant to the position applied for*
- *Fulltime and can work overtime.*
- *Masters degree is a plus for managerial position.*

Submit your resume at:

JSL IT CENTER

7373 Bakawan Street, San Antonio Village
Makati City, Philippines 1200
Tel nos. : (632) 893 - 9994, 893 - 7844
email : jps@go2ph.net

YSTILO
SALON

YSTILO SALON CORPORATION
Head Office and Training Center

NOW HIRING:

Office Secretary

- Single / female with at least 2 years experience working as an office secretary in a company that handles nationwide operations.
- Proficient in English.
- Willing to work long hours.
- Computer literate (MS Word, MS Excel, Powerpoint and other Windows application).

Send your resumé to:
Unit 1501, 15th Floor, West Trade Center,
132 West Avenue, Quezon City
Tel. 374-7149 to 51 or you may send it thru email to ystilo01@yahoo.com

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If you...
are assertive (but not intimidating)
are a good conversationalist
like to meet new friends
can work on either shift (5am to 2pm / 2pm to 11pm)

Mentorpia.net is looking for **FULL TIME**

ENGLISH TUTORS

with the following qualifications:
- College/University graduate of a 4-year course
- Fluent in English, good conversational skills with American accent
- Preferably with teaching/TESOL experience
- Skillful in using PC/Internet applications
- With pleasing personality, discipline and
- Has good time management skills
- 14 Thousand gross salary for first 3 months probationary period. Salary upgrade upon regularization.

Come and see us in person with your comprehensive resumé and 2x2 picture

Exam and interviews are held from
Monday to Friday between 10.00 am and 4:00 pm (ONLY) at
Unit 1705 Jollibee Plaza
Emerald Avenue, Ortigas Center
Pasig City, Metro Manila
Look for Ms. Rudena L. Aquino

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lookin' for a COOL JOB?

SERVICE CREW - for Manila, Pasay, Dau, Las Piñas and Calabarzon Area.
Male (5'4"), Female (5'2"), 18-25 y.o., with pleasing personality, at least high school graduate, and willing to undergo training.

GRAPHIC ARTIST - knowledgeable in Photoshop, Corel Draw, must be creative, bring Portfolio

JUNIOR ARCHITECH - knowledgeable in Autocadd, Cart & Store Design, Material Outsourcing and Project Estimation, bring Portfolio

INSPECTOR - knows how do drive a motorcycle, must have a drivers license

COOK - preferably with experience
Male/Female, not more than 30 y.o., College Graduate

BRING RESUME FROM MONDAY-WEDNESDAY, 9-10 am at.
ZAGU FOODS CORPORATION
17 Brixton St. Bo. Kapitolyo, Pasig City

The Local Enhancement and Development (LEAD) for Health Project, funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and implemented by Management Sciences for Health (MSH), is a three-year contract that aims to strengthen local government provision and management of family planning (FP) and selected health services (Vitamin A/MCH, TB and HIV/AIDS), and to improve the policies and financing for these services. The Project will seek to improve the capacity of local government units (LGUs), particularly in cities and municipalities, to meet the needs of their constituents, especially the poor, for FP, TB, MCH and HIV/AIDS.

MSH is currently searching for qualified candidates to fill in the position of Performance-based Contracts Manager.

The Performance-based Contracts Manager has overall financial responsibility and accountability for the subcontract management program, ensuring that contractors are able to manage their performance contracts efficiently and transparently in compliance with USAID regulations and Philippines Department of Health (DOH) national priorities, and ensuring project compliance with the terms and conditions of the **LEAD contract.** Duty station is Manila, Philippines.

DUTIES:

1. Keep abreast of USAID regulations to assist project staff, subcontractors, and grantees in adhering to the terms of the LEAD contract.
2. Maintain communications with Home Office to ensure compliance with organizational policies and procedures and coordination of activities.
3. In collaboration with the Home Office and LEAD technical staff, draft solicitations, conduct and document source selection, negotiate costs and other conditions, prepare awards and modifications, seek required approvals, monitor implementation, and close-out.
4. Prepare and provide training for project staff, subcontractors, and grantees on US government regulations and financial management.
5. Participate in the design and implementation of an effective performance-based grants program in accordance with USAID regulations and reporting requirements.

Desired Qualifications:

1. Master's degree in accounting or business management or Bachelor's degree with equivalent relevant experience working with NGOs required; MBA preferred.
2. Significant relevant experience in grants management and financial/operational systems preferred.
3. Substantial experience implementing USAID-supported projects and knowledge of USAID regulations and procedures strongly preferred.
4. Previous supervisory and training experience required.
5. Demonstrated writing, analytical, planning, and organizing skills.
6. Proficient in MS Office (particularly MS Word and Excel).
7. Performs well under pressure, demonstrated capacity to work effectively in a team.

Qualified applicants are requested to send their application letter, with a comprehensive resume showing details of their work experience, academic background, and references not later than February 4, 2005 through any of the following:

Mail : Suite 1101 Ma. Natividad Building
470 T. M. Kalaw Avenue corner Cortada Street
Ermita, Manila

Fax : (632) 521-0950

GARMENT FACTORY HAS JOB OPENINGS FOR

SEWERS / PROMOS / PRODUCTION / OFFICE / DRIVERS / CONSULTANTS / MARKETING / TRAINING MANAGERS

281 J.P. Rizal St., Project 4, Quezon City
Apply Monday – Saturday, 1 p.m.

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www.go2nz.net

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(Owned and operated by Republic Retailers)
Urgently needs

•MERCHANDISE MANAGER

Job Summary

Reports to the Division Manager and is responsible for planning, producing, and controlling merchandise, and interacting with suppliers to support store operations, while following the Mission & Vision of Republic Retailers. *More information at www . republicretailers . com or a Recruitment Brochure from our stores.*

Job Requirements

- ☐ Work experience in the same capacity in the retail industry (2 years)
- ☐ Graduate of any 4-year Business-related course, preferably with an MBA or Fashion Merchandising Degree
- ☐ Concise and clear business writing and verbal communication skills
- ☐ Proficient computer skills
- ☐ Is analytical, results and detail-oriented, proactive, highly motivated, artistic, creative and has a good fashion sense
- ☐ Ability to identify and apply systems solutions to business problems
- ☐ Ability to prioritize, multi-task and work successfully in a fast-paced work environment

More information at www . republicretailers . com or a Recruitment Brochure from our stores.

•STORE FRONTLINER

Job Summary

Reports to the Store Operations Manager, and is responsible for in-store selling, organizing, communicating, knowing and marketing of products through exceptional customer service, while following the Mission and Vision of Republic Retailers. *More information at www . republicretailers . com or a Recruitment Brochure from our stores.*

Job Requirements

- ☐ College degree or customer service experience in the retail, restaurant or hotel industry
- ☐ Willing and able to work on weekends and holidays
- ☐ Ability to deliver super-premium customer service
- ☐ Ability to work as part of a team
- ☐ Ability to work in a fast-paced and changing environment
- ☐ Strong problem-solving and interpersonal skills
- ☐ Effective oral communication skills
- ☐ Ability to learn new concepts and information quickly and concisely
- ☐ Willingness to learn

More information at www . republicretailers . com or a Recruitment Brochure from our stores.

•HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGER / ASSISTANT

Job Summary

Reports to the General Manager and is responsible for performance management, recruitment, implementation of HR policies & procedures, administering discipline, and providing information and support to employees' needs and concerns. *More information at www . republicretailers . com or a Recruitment Brochure from our stores*

Job Requirements (Work, Edu, Skills, Attitude)

- ☐ 3-5 years experience in employee relations.
- ☐ Strong working knowledge of human resource principles.
- ☐ Prior retail or hospitality experience preferred.
- ☐ Ability to recruit, identify and select talent.

More information at www . republicretailers . com or a Recruitment Brochure from our stores.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND HOW TO APPLY:

- Go to www. republicretailers.com

OR

- Get a "RECRUITMENT BROCHURE" from any of our stores: 2/F, Glorietta 4, Ayala Center, Makati City, or 1st Level Rockwell Power Plant Mall, Rockwell Drive corner Estrella St., Makati City, or 2nd Level Rustan's Shangri-La Plaza EDSA corner Shaw Boulevard, Mandaluyong City.

(Only qualified applicants will be scheduled for an interview)

If you're at least 21 years old, **HARDWORKING, ARTICULATE** and you've got a **PLEASING PERSONALITY** then you should be a part of our **Bulacan, Cabanatuan, Cebu, Iloilo and Manila** offices as:

SALES EXECUTIVES	At least college level At least 1 year sales experience of any product Willing to do fieldwork and work on extended hours
CUSTOMER SERVICE ASSISTANTS	College graduate Experience in call centers, restaurants, product sales promotion or as a receptionist is an advantage
CIVIL ENGINEERS	Licensed Civil Engineer, with at least 4 years experience in road construction Knows how to drive Willing to work on extended hours With experience in handling personnel
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY	Female Graduate of any business related course With experience in the same position
OFFICE STAFFS	Preferably single Graduate of any business related course
ACCOUNTING STAFF	Female Accounting course graduate, preferably a CPA With experience in general accounting

COME IN BUSINESS ATTIRE
FROM MONDAY TO SATURDAY, 9 AM-3 PM
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Very attractive compensation package, which can go up to P50,000 plus incentives/commissions await you.
We prefer applicants from Metro Manila schools

P. A. R. K DEVELOPERS, INC.
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PSP BUILDING, 60 A. Rodriguez Avenue,
corner Marcos Highway, Pasig City

FEMALE OFFICE STAFF

For Sales and Marketing of Subdivision and Housing Projects

- Preferably with work experience in real estate sales
- Single, 25years old up, with pleasing personality

Send resume/police clearance to:

Homeowners Development Corporation
154 Katipunan Avenue, St. Ignatius Village, QC
Tel. 912-7731 or 911-2696

WANTED

LAY-OUT ARTIST

- Photoshop

NON-LINEAR VIDEO EDITOR

- Adobe Premier

Contact:
Marie Dacquigan
for more info
(02) 535-5360

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- Free tuition fee
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- Guaranteed Embarkation - onboard company - owned Ships

Requirements:

- Fresh High School Graduate
- Must belong to the top 10% of the male graduating class
- High School Report Card with the G.A. of at least 85% no grade below 80% in any subject
- Original & Photocopy of Birth Certificate
- Must not be more than 20 years old as of June 2005

The Scholarship is in cooperation with University of Cebu - Maritime Education and Training Center

Application forms available at:

HFS Philippines, Inc.
4677 Arellano St., Palanan, Makati City
Tel. 551-8592 to 96
Fax: 551-8730

Last day of submission of application is on **February 10, 2005**

CHARTER HANDS STAFFING, INC.

G/F FEMII Bldg., A. Soriano Ave., Intramuros Manila
Tel. Nos. 536-2131; 536-4070

We are a fast growing manpower staffing company servicing multinational clients. Currently we are in urgent need to hire highly qualified personnel to fill-up the following job vacancies:

1. **CUSTOMS REPRESENTATIVE / DOMESTIC-IN-CHARGE**
   Male/Female; 27-35 yrs. old; Graduate of BS in Customs Administration; has an extensive experience and specialized in DOMESTIC PROCESSING and Documentations; knows the Current Domestic Rates; Knowledge in Tariff and Trade is required; Must have shipping lines connections; Can handle agents from different provinces in the Philippines; Good analytical skill
2. **ACCOUNTING STAFF / AUDIT STAFF**
   Male/Female; 21-28 yrs. old; Graduate of Business Accountancy; Very good analytical Skill; Experience in various accounting fields; Can work with minimum supervision and can handle pressures.
3. **AIR-CONDITIONING TECHNICIANS**
   Male; 23-40 yrs. old; Graduate of Air-con Tech Vocational or its equivalent; Extensive experience in Troubleshooting Split Type, Window type, and Packaging Type Air-conditioning system.
4. **BUILDING MAINTENANCE**
   Male; 25-35 yrs. old; Graduate of Auto Mechanic Vocational Course; At least 2 yrs. experience in the same field; Can work with minimum supervision and can handle pressure; Willing to do Multi-Tasking jobs as may require.
5. **CUSTOMS PROCESSOR**
   Male; below 30 yrs. old; Customs Administration graduate ; Knows how to drive motorcycle with valid driver license; Willing to be assigned in Clark Pampanga
6. **WAREHOUSEMAN**
   Male; below 35 yrs. old; At least College Level; Knows how to drive motorcycle with valid drivers license; Willing to be assigned in Subic Pampanga.

For positions Nos. 1-6 please look for **Ms. IVY VALLAR** or **Mr. JHON A. MANALILI**
Tel. No. 536-4070 Telefax: 536-2131 Email: chsi@cfsharp.com

7. **TELEMARKETER / CALL CENTER AGENTS**
8. **PREMIUM PAYABLE ASSISTANT**
9. **COLLECTION OFFICER**
10. **ADMIN ASSISTANT / OFFICE ASSISTANT**
    - College Graduate at least with 6 months experience
    - With Good Moral Character
11. **SKIN CARE CONSULTANT / PROMO GIRLS**
    - 18-24 yrs. old, at least 5'3" in height, Fair Complexion
    - High school graduate
    - With good moral character
12. **QUALITY CONTROL ASSISTANT – PHP 9-11,000**
13. **QUALITY CONTROL OFFICER – PHP 12-15,000**
14. **QUALITY CONTROL SUPERVISOR – PHP 15-18,000**
    - Can supervise the people/agents if they all conform with the rules & specifications on their jobs
    - Not more than 30 yrs. old
    - Good English; with Selling Background; Can motivate

For positions Nos. 7-14 please look for **Ms. MELODY RECAMATA** or **Ms. LORNA CADDARAO** at Tel. Nos. 525-7902, 526-3705 Telefax. 525-7729 Email: skms@cfsharp.com

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EYE BANK FOUNDATION OF THE PHILIPPINES

A non-profit, non-government humanitarian organization that operates a state-of-the-art eye banking facility dedicated to the collection, processing 7 distribution of high-quality corneal & eye tissues for transplant is in urgent need of an:

EYE BANK TECHNICIAN

Interested applicants must either be nurses or medical technologists with valid driver's license and willing to undergo 6 weeks training on corneal excision on cadaveric donors (with allowance)

E-mail application letter, resume and photo to eyebank1@ultimate.info.com.ph
Or hand in applications at Rm. 246 Makati Medical Center, # 2 Amorsolo St., Makati City

Deadline for submission of above requirements is on: February 15, 2005

WANTED IMMEDIATELY

PROJECT OFFICER

(HR/Com 002-05)

- Bachelors degree; excellent in Project Management
- Strong background in International Humanitarian Law (IHL)
- Excellent interpersonal skills & ability to work independently
- Background in research and knows process in getting a bill passed in Congress
- Not more than 45 y.o. & good physical condition
- Good to excellent ability in spoken/written English
- Having done volunteer work in Red Cross is an added advantage

Submit application letter, CV, Diploma and Transcript of Records through mail/fax to: HRD Manager, Philippine National Red Cross, Port Area, Manila (527-0857) on or before January 30, 2005

Immigrate to Canada for US$600

Mr. Richard Nielsen-Barrister & Solicitor & member of Law Society-BC will be in Manila on March 7 to 11, 2005. We are offering a special package for first 20 clients for SKILLED WORKER IMMIGRANT CATEGORY. We do all types of IMMIGRATION - TOURIST, BUSINESSPERSONS, PROFESSIONALS & INVESTORS(6-9MONTHS PROCESSING) Pls. call office for details & reservations. Standard Immigration Services Inc 9 Albany, NE Greenhills San Juan, Tel: 7213738, 09178171827, 9174814186; E-mail: standardphilippines@yahoo.com

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Canon

Canon Information Technologies Philippines, Inc. (ci-tech), one of Canon's largest Product R&D center in the world, develops products and technologies for imaging and networking. We seek to recruit engineers and other positions for our current and future projects. Comprehensive training programs and overseas travel opportunities await qualified employees. Attractive compensation packages offered.

Software Engineers

- Candidate must possess at least a Bachelor's/College Degree in Engineering, Computer Science, IT or any related course
- Responsible for software development for future Canon products such as printers, copiers, and digital cameras
- Must have strong programming skills using C, C++, and Java
- Knowledgeable in algorithms, data structures and operating system concepts

Quality Assurance Engineers

- Candidate must possess at least a Bachelor's/College Degree in Engineering, Computer Science, IT or any related course
- Responsible for conducting software testing, test planning, and test scripting
- Must have strong computer operation skills especially in various Microsoft Windows platforms and applications
- Contract positions also available

Please send a copy of your comprehensive resume with recent passport-size photo and Transcript of Records to

Canon Information Technologies Philippines, Inc.
Human Resources Department
2nd Floor Techno Plaza One, 18 Orchard Road
Eastwood, Quezon City 1110

Or e-mail your resume and Transcript of Records to recruitment@citech.com.ph

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WANTED FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

ASST. SECRETARY

- Female, 25 to 30 years old
- 2 to 3 years of work experience
- College graduate (any course)
- Must be computer literate
- Must be able to keep confidential matters
- Willing to work overtime, if needed
- With pleasing personality

MERCHANDISER

- Female, 25 to 35 years old
- At least 3 years of work experience with handicraft exporters (knowledgeable in sourcing of items)
- College graduate (any course)
- Willing to work overtime, if needed
- With pleasing personality

Send your resumé, latest 2x2 colored picture to:

THE MANAGER
P.O. Box 3630
MAKATI CENTRAL POST OFFICE
MAKATI CITY

*Only pre-qualified candidates will be called for interview

Large Format Printing Company
Immediately Needs

Account Executives

- 21 to 28 years old
- Driven, with Good Interpersonal Skills

Graphic Artist/Large Format Printer Operator

- Male, 21 to 28 years old
- Proficient in Adobe & Corel Software

Messenger/Driver

- Male, 21 to 28 years old
- with 2-3 years experience in driving motorcycle & 4-wheel vehicle

Fax your resumé to 9347975 local 102
or email us at tarpographics@yahoo.com

---

openings at **AD systems**

conceptualization, digital imaging, Mac-based digital layout, final artwork and print production.

graphic designer

account manager

with experience in diverse advertising accounts within an integrated marketing system

pdcp bank centre, rufino cor. leviste sts., salcedo village, makati; tel. no. 8138841

Send your resumé instantly.

JOB Market
www.jobmarketonline.com

Rustan's

urgently needs...

BUSINESS PROCESS RE-ENGINEERING (BPR) ASSISTANT MANAGER

- Between 23 to 30 years old, Male
- Graduate of Management or Industrial Engineering and must have at least 2 to 3 years related experience in BPR, project & change management
- Must have knowledge of established BPR methodologies and techniques.
- Behavioral: Coaching, above average communication skills, great follow up skills, quality orientation and highly proficient in computer application is advantage

HUMAN RESOURCES ASSISTANT MANAGER FOR EXECUTIVE RECRUITMENT

- Between 23 to 30 years old, Female
- Graduate of Behavioral Science or Psychology and must have at least 2 to 3 years experience in recruitment and career management
- Must have above average selection and process management skills and must be able to analyze recruitment efforts and determine which plans are producing the best results.

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT ASSISTANT MANAGER

- Graduate of Behavioral Science, Management, Business Administration or Education
- Must have at least 2 year(s) of work exposure in training design, conduct and administration preferably in a marketing or retail environment
- Must be adept in Training Needs Analysis, Current Training Methods and Techniques
- Must be high on planning and organizing, counseling, facilitating and communication
- Must have the technical and professional knowledge of the job and should be customer focused.

ADMINISTRATIVE & WAREHOUSE MANAGER FOR VISUAL MERCHADISING

- Graduate of Business Management/ Business Administration or Industrial Engineering
- Must have at least 3 year(s) of work experience in the same field in a managerial capacity from Manufacturing or Retail Industries
- Must have a good management skills as to Planning, Organizing, Leading, Implementation and Evaluation
- Competent on the following areas: Systems & Implementation Monitoring, Budget Planning & Control and Warehousing/ Logistics Management

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING MANAGER

- Certified Public Accountant (CPA) and must have knowledge in Financial Accounting, Financial Planning & Control, Reconciliation, Budgeting and other related functions in a managerial capacity
- Must have at least 3 years work experience from manufacturing or retail industries
- Must be willing to work long hours
- Highly proficient in computer applications

DATA INTEGRITY & INVENTORY CONTROL MANAGER

- Graduate of Accounting or Industrial Engineering
- Must have at least 2 years managerial experience from manufacturing or retail industries with background in Inventory Accounting in a computerized environment
- Highly proficient in computer applications and familiar with JDA, EIS, Platinum Systems.

TREASURY MANAGER (TM)
CREDIT AND COLLECTION MANAGER (CCM)

- Graduate of a business related course, preferably with MBA
- Computer literate and must have knowledge in risk management, corporate cash management, budget, and financial analysis
- For CCM – Must have at least 2 years managerial experience in credit management of complex accounts from manufacturing or retail industries
- FOR TM – Must have at least 4 years work experience in Treasury from manufacturing or retail industries

PROJECT ASSISTANT

- Between 25-35 years old
- Graduate of Civil Engineering, Interior Design or Architecture
- Must have knowledge and experience in Construction, Project Implementation and Coordination.
- Must be computer literate and analytical, have skills in Autocad and Basic project management
- Must have at least 2 years of working exposure in interior design, project management and building maintenance
- Must be willing to work in Mandaluyong City and do site visits as far as Alabang & Manila

MPC ANALYST

- Female, between 21-32 yrs. old
- Graduate of B.S. Mathematics or B.S. Accountancy
- Must have at least 1 year work experience
- Must have good communication and interpersonal skills and highly proficient in computer applications
- Preferably with above average analytical skills

CREDIT AND COLLECTION SUPERVISOR (CRMS)

- Female, between 21-28 yrs. old
- Graduate of a business related course
- Must have at least 2 yrs. Supervisory capacity in credit, evaluation and receivables collection
- Must be knowledgeable in risk management, corporate cash management, budget and financial analysis
- Must be interpersonally effective with customers and possesses analytical and administrative skills
- Must be computer literate and efficient

IS AUDIT ANALYST (ISAA)

- Female, between 21-28 yrs. old
- Graduate of BS Accountancy, BS Math, BS Computer
- At least 1 year experience in Computer Audit or IT work
- Must be hardworking, diligent, and with good moral character
- Must have good communication skills

Qualified applicants may send their comprehensive resumé to:

RUSTAN COMMERCIAL CORPORATION
Human Resources & Organizational Development Division
G/F El Mercasol Bldg EDSA, Mandaluyong City
or Email to: atcutalan@ rustans.com.ph

Century Park Hotel

Is in need of

1 – SOUS CHEF (COFFEE SHOP KITCHEN)
1 – SOUS CHEF (UNSUI [JAPANESE] KITCHEN)

- Male, not more than 40 years old
- Seven (7) years experience, preferably in a hotel of international standards
- Strong leadership
- Innovative
- Cost oriented
- Proficient in fine dining
- Ability to handle personnel
- Good communication skills
- Personable and neat

2 – ACCOUNT MANAGERS (SALES & MARKETING)

- Female, not more than 30 years old
- At least 5'2" tall
- College graduate preferably in Hotel & Restaurant Management or Marketing
- Minimum of two (2) years experience in Sales
- Personable, aggressive and charming
- Verbal and written communication is a must
- Good exposure in local and foreign market
- Willing to work long hours

1 – ACCOUNT MANAGER (BANQUET)

- Female, not more than 28 years old
- College graduate preferably in Hotel & Restaurant Management
- At least two (2) years experience in hotel of international standards
- Facility in verbal and written communication
- Personable and aggressive with good salesmanship
- Service-oriented, keen attention to fine details
- Knowledge of the hotel facilities and service standards
- Knowledge of food and beverage, proper service techniques and function room decorations is a must

1 – (MANDARIN speaking) GUEST SERVICE AGENT
1 – GUEST SERVICE AGENT

- Female, not more than 28 years old
- At least 5'4" tall
- College graduate preferably Bachelor of Science in Hotel & Restaurant Management
- Proficiency in oral and written Mandarin communication is a must
- Proficiency in oral and written English communication is a must
- Ability to use Fidelio system is an advantage
- Ability to relate with different people

1 – BELL SERVICE SUPERVISOR

- Male, not more than 30 years old
- At least 5'8" tall
- College graduate preferably in Hotel & Restaurant Management
- With four (4) years work experience in a hotel
- Verbal and written facility is a must
- With good leadership ability
- Personable, neat and attractive

QUALIFIED CANDIDATES ARE INVITED TO SUBMIT PERSONALLY THEIR RESUMÉ WITH A RECENT 2x2 COLORED PHOTO AND CERTIFICATES IF ANY, AT:

599 P. Ocampo Sr. St., Malate, Manila
or P.O. Box 117 C.P.O. Manila

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- Payroll Assistant
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FOR BAGUIO:

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- Customer Service Representatives
- Admin and Facilities Officer
- Telecoms Engineer
- Site Support Supervisor
- Site Support Technician
- Employment Administrator
- Purchasing Clerk

JOBFAIRS:

PASIG:
Mon to Fri (9am-3pm) Jan 24 - 28
22/F Wynsum Corporate Plaza,
Emerald Ave, Ortigas Center, Pasig City

BAGUIO:
Mon to Fri (9am-5pm) Jan 24 -28
Baguio Economic Zone, Loakan Rd.,
Baguio City

Bring your resume w/ 2x2 picture, SSS & TIN nos.

CLIENTLOGIC
Philippines Inc.
Ortigas Center Baguio City

22/F Wynsum Corporate Plaza, Emerald Ave. Ortigas Center, Pasig City 1600
E-mail: recruitment@clientlogic.com.ph www.clientlogic.com

YOUNG LIBERALS and DEMOCRATS of ASIA (YLDA)

An international organization of Asian liberal youth organizations and individuals based in Manila is looking for a

PROGRAM OFFICER

The successful applicant should hold a bachelor's degree and should have at least one year employment experience preferably in an NGO setting handling project planning and implementation and events management. He or she must also have proven editorial and writing experience.

The right candidate should be fluent in spoken and written English, have good interpersonal skills, must be computer literate and internet savvy and willing to travel and work long hours in a multitasking environment under an international and multicultural setting.

Applicants should send a cover letter indicating earliest date of availability, résume, recent 2x2 picture, writing samples and a copy of their Transcript of Records to: secretariat@yldasia.org no later than January 28, 2005

TRANSKRIPSYO NEEDS YOU TO BE PART OF A PROFESSIONAL TEAM

EXPERIENCED MEDICAL TRANSCRIPTIONISTS & EDITORS

- Must have at least 6 mos. (MT) or 2 years (EDITOR) actual MT experience
- Willing to be assigned to any schedule
- Applicants with less experience may apply as Trainee

EXCELLENT COMPENSATION AWAITS SUCCESSFULL APPLICANTS

Please send your resume to 1106 One San Miguel Ave Bldg San Miguel Ave. cor. Shaw Blvd.,Ortigas Center, Pasig City or email us at philtranscript@yahoo.com

Due to urgency of this requirement, you may call us at 687-0940 to set an appointment for interview

---

If you are:

- Female
- Not more than 30 years old
- Graduate of Communication Arts or Social Work
- Adventurous, helpful and charitable

The you'll make a good

REPORTER

for **ISUMBONG MO KAY TULFO**

Apply at the 5th Floor Citystate Center
709 Shaw Blvd., Pasig City
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MICROCADD TECHNOLOGIES

(For Manila and SM Pampanga branches)

Staad Instructors
AutoCAD Instructors
Marketing Staffs

All instructor applicants please send resume
Interview for Mktg Staff will be on January 26 2005 at 1 - 3 pm

5/F Doña Consolacion Bldg.,
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Cubao, Quezon City (beside Farmers)

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Join us in our Open House,
Tuesday, January 25,2004, at 6:00 P.M.
Please call to confirm attendance.
Tel. 7501370 local 710 & 616,
ask for Bless or Abie.
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Salcedo Village, Makati City

WE ARE INVITING
CALL CENTER APPLICANTS
FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS:

CALL CENTER ASSOCIATES
BOOKKEEPERS
HUMAN RESOURCE PERSONNEL

YOU MAY PERSONALLY BRING YOUR COMPREHENSIVE RESUMÉ TO THE

MISA LAW OFFICES
3RD FLOOR, OAC BUILDING,
27 SAN MIGUEL AVENUE,
ORTIGAS BUSINESS DISTRICT, PASIG CITY
BETWEEN 5:00 TO 8:00 P.M.
FROM 24 TO 28 JANUARY 2005.
E-MAIL: alex@sytop.com

The best companies need the best people.
visit us at www.jobmarketonline.com

How to create your own luck and keep it, too!

From page 9★★

point of attending these events is for you to know eople you don't know nereby expanding your netwo. of contacts. Plane trips (especially the long routes) are also good venues to make new acquaintances who may or may not be helpful to you in the future. Oftentimes, strangers turn out to be good sources of information or contacts that you need in your work or business.

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5. **Lucky people ask for or offer help.** "Ask and you shall receive." This Biblical passage really works. It is but logical that when you ask, there is a higher probability that you will get what you are asking for. On the other hand, offering help also works. There is a oft-repeated saying that when one gives, one is blessed a thousand fold in return.

6. **Lucky people stray from their chosen paths.** There are many stories of successful people who strayed from the paths laid out for them. A famous radio personality was once a plodding accountant. A founder of a successful food chain was once an insurance agent. A millionaire many times over was once a stevedore. If these people did not consider another path, they may not have achieved their present level of success.

7. **Lucky people exit graciously without burning bridges.** Ironically, the best time to exit is when you are at your best. Then, you leave people with the best of memories and abundance of goodwill which you can draw upon in future endeavors. The worst way to exit is when you leave behind negative experiences and emotions. This way detracts from your resources rather than adds to it.

8. **Lucky people say yes when they want to say no.** It is hard to say yes when saying yes means a sacrifice on your end. But people who are lucky make the sacrifice and say yes. By saying yes, they are opening themselves up to new opportunities that may not have otherwise been there if they had said no.

RoAne believes that these eight traits are what set the "lucky" ones apart from the rest who rely on the stars for their luck. Thus, what many would consider serendipity or merely accidental become regular occurrences for people who create their luck rather than letting luck (good or bad) create their future. So, if you want to be lucky in the Year of the Rooster, no matter what your sign is, try developing these traits and see how it works.

Other careers in the call center industry

From page 8★★

tomated financial systems, they must be average in oral and written communication.

Great future

You only have to look at the big call center advertisements in the Sunday Inquirer and read the listings of job positions in all departments of various levels in a call center company to be convinced that there is a great future in the call center industry.

To attain career success in the call center industry, you must have the right skills and potentials, have very good customer service orientation, must be hardworking and self-driven to exceed yourself, and motivated to continuously learn to do things better, faster and differently to meet the needs both of the customer and of their organization. Excellence is key to career success in the call center.

"Call center work is really customer service at its finest," are the words of the HR Director of a top call center company. Customer service, if based on genuine and authentic caring for the need satisfaction and well-being of the customer, is the foundation and building block of the call center business. Authentic customer service cannot be faked. One must have genuine service orientation to build a successful career in the call center industry.

(Ms Santamaria was the director of the Career Materials Development Project of De La Salle University [CMDP] where she was also in the faculty of the Graduate School of Education, teaching courses in career counseling and guidance. The CMDP developed and published research-based career information materials for students and guidance counselors to facilitate rational career decision-making. The project was closed when the government, through the then National Manpower and Youth Council, now TESDA, withdrew funding and concentrated itself only on voational-technical training. Ms Santamaria is the founding president of the Career Development Association of the Philippines. Presently, she is the president of Career Systems, Inc., a leading provider of a wide array of career development training programs and consulting services in the Philippines.)

Be part of People at Work

WOULD you like to be part of a family that can help you in your career growth and development? Join the People at Work community where members support each other in the quest for a better career and life. People at Work columnists, writers and editorial staff will also be part of this group to lend you a helping hand. Working professionals, jobseekers, human resource executives and practitioners, managers, trainers, consultants and all others willing to share and help are welcome to join. Members will have access to updates and discounts on People at Work events, advice from People at Work columnists and writers and other members, chat schedules with members and "eyeball" events. To join, send your name, gender, civil status, age, contact number, e-mail address and company name and position title (if applicable) to peopleatwork@inquirer.com.ph or fax to tel. no. (632) 938-2092 or text to 02-937-0376 from Mondays to Fridays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Goals make life meaningful

From page 9★★

workable and motivating goal would be, "I will increase my sales next year by 10 to 15 percent. This revised statement has several advantages. It defines the increase that you are striving for as well as the range of the desired increase. Giving yourself some leeway is more realistic than expecting to hit your goal at exactly 15 percent.

Your goal must be a challenge. A goal must motivate you to work harder than you have in the past. It must move you forward. Set your goals just beyond your reach so that you'll have to stretch a bit. The more you stretch, the limber your goal-achieving abilities will become.

Your goal must be realistic. Everything is relative to time and space. What is unrealistic today may be totally within reason five years from now. For years it was believed that the fastest a man could run a mile was in four minutes. It was unrealistic to aspire to running any faster until Dr. Roger Bannister broke the four-minute mile in 1954. Since then hundreds of runners have done the same. In any field, we never really know what the upper limits are. How, then, do we define realistic?

For our purposes, the best definition must come from you and your values. You must ask yourself, "What price am I willing to pay to accomplish this goal?" You should always weigh the payoffs and the sacrifices involved before coming to a conclusion. Being realistic is ultimately your decision.

(To be continued next week.)

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MATRIX HUMAN RESOURCES & CONSULTANTS INC.,
POEA LIC. NO. – 175-LB-122804-PL
670 T.M. KALAW ST., ERMITA, MANILA
WEHAYA SDN BHD – MALAYSIA
PETRONAS VDP for Electrical & Instrument
POEA Accreditation #10064405

10-NDT Inspectors (Welding/Piping)
10-Piping Engineers
10-Instrumentation Engineers
5-Mechanical Engineers (RE)
5-Mechanical Team Leaders
5-Mechanical Foreman (RE)
5-Mechanical Foreman (Workshop)
5 - Instrumentation Supervisors
20-Mechanical Fitters
20-Instrument Technicians
5- Mechanical Helpers (RE)
15-Mechanical Helpers (Wkshp)
5 Industrial Electrician (Power/Dist.)
5 Warehousemen

INTERESTED CANDIDATES SHOULD HAVE NO LESS THAN FIVE (5) YEARS EXPERIENCE IN OIL & GAS-Petrochemical companies/refineries.

Manpower Pooling Only
PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL REQUIREMENTS

PROJECT MANAGEMENT/TURNAROUND
> Project Director
> Project Manager
> Project Engineer
> Project Control Manager
> Project Control Engineer
> Scheduler
> Cost Estimator
> Quantity Surveyor
> QA Manager
> QA Engineer/Specialist
> HSE Manager
> HSE Engineer/Specialist
> Accountant
> Office Administrative/Executive
> Turnaround Manager
> Preparation Engineer
> Turnaround Planner

ENGINEERING:
> Engineering Manager
> Process Engineer (Process /Utility/Off-sites/Tech. Safety & Environment
> Mechanical Engineer
> (Rotating/Static/Piping
> Civil Engineer (Civil/Structural)
> Electrical Engineer (Power/System/Package
> Instrument Engineer (Field/ System/Scada/Telecom
> Pipeline Engineer (Onshore
> Engineering Designers
> Engineering Draftsman /Drafters

OIL DRILLING DIVISION
> Drilling Superintendent
> Sr. Drilling Supervisor
> Night Drilling Supervisor
> Sr. Drilling Engineer
> Sr. Fluid Engineer
> Pump Men
> Jacking Technician
> Slick-line Supervisor
> Well Technicians
> Shutdown Planning Engineer
> Shutdown Administrator
> Drillers
> Assistant Drillers
> Commissioning Manager
> Commissioning Specialist – RE/ Static/Pipeline/Elect./Inst.
> Start Up Specialist
> Slick-line Operator
> Slick-line Assistants
> Well Site Geologist
> Shutdown Technicians
> Rig Crane Operators Offshore

Construction:
> Construction Manager
> Construction Superintendent (Civil/Mech./Elect./Inst./Scada/Comm
> Welding/NDT Inspector / Supervisor
> Civil Inspector / Supervisor
> Mech./Piping Inspector/ Supervisor
> E & I Inspector / Supervisor
> Pipeline Inspector / Supervisor
> QA/QC Inspector / Supervisor
> Construction Engineer
> Rigger
> Scaffolder
> Safety Advisor/Officer
> X-Ray Auditor
> Surveyor

Submit 3 sets of Resume with pictures, Certificate of Employment, Copy of Passport, NBI & Diskette in MS Word Resume File personally to address abovementioned, or email it to matrixconsultants@itworksservices.net

BEWARE OF ILLEGAL RECRUITERS * NO FEES TO BE COLLECTED

Lafayette (Philippines), Inc. is seeking a suitably qualified and experienced person for its Makati-based position of:

ACCOUNTANT

The successful candidate will be holding a professional staff position and will be responsible for the day-to-day accounting services in accordance with company policies and procedures.

Job Requirement:
- Holder of a bachelor's degree in Accounting. CPA is a must.
- At least three (3) years of relevant experience in all facets of general accounting.
- Capable of working with minimum supervision and maintain composure under pressure.
- Proficiency in oral and written English.
- Computer literate preferably with experience in computerized accounting systems.

Qualified candidates may send comprehensive resume' with recent passport size picture before 28 January 2005 to:

The Finance Manager
Lafayette (Philippines), Inc.
S21 Legaspi Suites, 178 Salcedo Street
Legaspi Village, Makati City

SERVICE ENGINEERS

Qualifications:
- Male, 25 to 28 years old
- Graduate of Electrical/Electronics Engineering course
- Preferably with experience in servicing electromechanical equipments
- Good oral and written communication skills
- With good moral character
- Preferably residing in Baguio
- To be assigned in Baguio City

Please send resumé at:

Servcom, Inc.
2nd Flr., Jaguar Service Ctr., 3904 Quingua St.,
Brgy. Pinagkaisahan, Makati City
Or e-mail at: servcom_inc@yahoo.com

IMMEDIATE HIRING
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Suite 2104 21st Flr.
Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City
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TO OCCUPY VARIOUS POSITIONS IN THE COMPANY

IF YOU ARE:
✓ College graduates of at least 4 year course from reputable schools and universities
✓ Energetic men and women of at least 20 years old and above
✓ Individuals who have a good command of English or Chinese Language
✓ With or Without Work Experience
✓ Willing to start immediately (not presently employed or enrolled)

THEN YOU DESERVE:
✓ A STARTING PAY OF ABOVE AVERAGE INCOME
✓ Company sponsored training
✓ Career development and growth with our automatic promotion system
✓ Travel Opportunities (here and abroad)

See us in your PROPER BUSINESS ATTIRE with 2 pcs. (2x2) Passport sized pictures, complete resumé, clipping of this ad and valid ID from Monday - Wednesday (January 24 to January 26, 2005) from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Present another ID to gain entrance in the building

MICROCADD
TECHNOLOGIES
Store Supervisors
- Graduate of Business Management or other related courses
- Male / Female, atleast 23 years old
- Experience is an advantage but not required
- Preferably with knowledge in CAD

All qualified applicants please send resume
[illegible] Araneta Center, Cubao, Quezon City [illegible]

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRE-SPED TUTOR
Male, 27-37 y/o, for Homebased program of 12 y/o aut boy, Beh Sci Grad. w/teaching exp, likes baking/cooking, sports, Wt. 140 lbs.+, Ht. 5'4"+, Can work on wknds,
Bring Refs, cv, foto, NBI/pol clrns, etc.
Call8133824 Telefax7280435
Text 0917-623-9977 for appt.

ACCOUNTING CLERK
- Female, 30-40 years old
- able to work under pressure
- preferably with experience
- knowledge in human resources

Apply & bring resumé with 2x2 picture at 849 N.S. Amoranto St., cor. G. Araneta Ave., Quezon City.

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Urgently needs 100 Registered Nurses to work in NEW ZEALAND. At least 2 years solid working experience in a Hospital.
- 12 months contract (renewable)
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- Irresistible benefits
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PASSERS OF IELTS (ACADEMIC) RESULT, SPEAKING & WRITING, 7.0 AND WITH OVERALL BAND OF 7.0 OR ABOVE IS AN ADVANTAGE***

Passers of CGFNS, TOEFL, TSE and TWE are exempted from IELTS,

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Please submit detailed resumé to:

RELIABLE RECRUITMENT CORPORATION
1166 Grey St., Ermita, Manila
Tel. No. 5222128 / 5261310 / 5251935
Fax No. 5216119
E-mail: relcor@skyinet.net

Interview conducted DAILY

MAG-INGAT SA ILLEGAL RECRUITER

How to create your own luck and keep it, too!

From page 9★★

point of attending these events is for you to know people you don't know thereby expanding your network of contacts. Plane trips (especially the long routes) are also good venues to make new acquaintances who may or may not be helpful to you in the future. Oftentimes, strangers turn out to be good sources of information or contacts that you need in your work or business.

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4. **Lucky people eavesdrop and listen.** Since the infamous Watergate, electronic eavesdropping has been elevated to a national security crime. But of course, this is not what RoAne espouses. What she means is that while it is important to listen fully to the people you are conversing with, it helps that you are also aware of the other conversations or "noises" going on around you. She calls this "overhearing." For all you know, the information you pick up from your surroundings may be something you can use in the future.

5. **Lucky people ask for or offer help.** "Ask and you shall receive." This Biblical passage really works. It is but logical that when you ask, there is a higher probability that you will get what you are asking for. On the other hand, offering help also works. There is a oft-repeated saying that when one gives, one is blessed a thousand fold in return.

6. **Lucky people stray from their chosen paths.** There are many stories of successful people who strayed from the paths laid out for them. A famous radio personality was once a plodding accountant. A founder of a successful food chain was once an insurance agent. A millionaire many times over was once a stevedore. If these people did not consider another path, they may not have achieved their present level of success.

7. **Lucky people exit graciously without burning bridges.** Ironically, the best time to exit is when you are at your best. Then, you leave people with the best of memories and abundance of goodwill which you can draw upon in future endeavors. The worst way to exit is when you leave behind negative experiences and emotions. This way detracts from your resources rather than adds to it.

8. **Lucky people say yes when they want to say no.** It is hard to say yes when saying yes means a sacrifice on your end. But people who are lucky make the sacrifice and say yes. By saying yes, they are opening themselves up to new opportunities that may not have otherwise been there if they had said no.

RoAne believes that these eight traits are what set the "lucky" ones apart from the rest who rely on the stars for their luck. Thus, what many would consider serendipity or merely accidental become regular occurrences for people who create their luck rather than letting luck (good or bad) create their future. So, if you want to be lucky in the Year of the Rooster, no matter what your sign is, try developing these traits and see how it works.

Other careers in the call center industry

From page 8★★

tomated financial systems, they must be average in oral and written communication.

Great future

You only have to look at the big call center advertisements in the Sunday Inquirer and read the listings of job positions in all departments of various levels in a call center company to be convinced that there is a great future in the call center industry.

To attain career success in the call center industry, you must have the right skills and potentials, have very good customer service orientation, must be hardworking and self-driven to exceed yourself, and motivated to continuously learn to do things better, faster and differently to meet the needs both of the customer and of their organization. Excellence is key to career success in the call center.

"Call center work is really customer service at its finest," are the words of the HR Director of a top call center company. Customer service, if based on genuine and authentic caring for the need satisfaction and well-being of the customer, is the foundation and building block of the call center business. Authentic customer service cannot be faked. One must have genuine service orientation to build a successful career in the call center industry.

(Ms Santamaria was the director of the Career Materials Development Project of De La Salle University [CMDP] where she was also in the faculty of the Graduate School of Education, teaching courses in career counseling and guidance. The CMDP developed and published research-based career information materials for students and 'guidance counselors to facilitate rational career decision-making. The project was closed when the government, through the then National Manpower and Youth Council, now TESDA, withdrew funding and concentrated itself only on voational-technical training. Ms Santamaria is the founding president of the Career Development Association of the Philippines. Presently, she is the president of Career Systems, Inc., a leading provider of a wide array of career development training programs and consulting services in the Philippines.)

Be part of People at Work

WOULD you like to be part of a family that can help you in your career growth and development? Join the People at Work community where members support each other in the quest for a better career and life. People at Work columnists, writers and editorial staff will also be part of this group to lend you a helping hand. Working professionals, jobseekers, human resource executives and practitioners, managers, trainers, consultants and all others willing to share and help are welcome to join. Members will have access to updates and discounts on People at Work events, advice from People at Work columnists and writers and other members, chat schedules with members and "eyeball" events. To join, send your name, gender, civil status, age, contact number, e-mail address and company name and position title (if applicable) to peopleatwork@inquirer.com.ph or fax to tel. no. (632) 938-2092 or text to 02-937-0376 from Mondays to Fridays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Goals make life meaningful

From page 9★★

workable and motivating goal would be, "I will increase my sales next year by 10 to 15 percent. This revised statement has several advantages. It defines the increase that you are striving for as well as the range of the desired increase. Giving yourself some leeway is more realistic than expecting to hit your goal at exactly 15 percent.

Your goal must be a challenge. A goal must motivate you to work harder than you have in the past. It must move you forward. Set your goals just beyond your reach so that you'll have to stretch a bit. The more you stretch, the limber your goal-achieving abilities will become.

Your goal must be realistic. Everything is relative to time and space. What is unrealistic today may be totally within reason five years from now. For years it was believed that the fastest a man could run a mile was in four minutes. It was unrealistic to aspire to running any faster until Dr. Roger Bannister broke the four-minute mile in 1954. Since then hundreds of runners have done the same. In any field, we never really know what the upper limits are. How, then, do we define realistic?

For our purposes, the best definition must come from you and your values. You must ask yourself, "What price am I willing to pay to accomplish this goal?" You should always weigh the payoffs and the sacrifices involved before coming to a conclusion. Being realistic is ultimately your decision.

(To be continued next week.)

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MATRIX HUMAN RESOURCES & CONSULTANTS INC.,
POEA LIC. NO. – 175-LB-122804-PL
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WEHAYA SDN BHD – MALAYSIA
PETRONAS VDP for Electrical & Instrument
POEA Accreditation #10064405

10-NDT Inspectors (Welding/Piping)
10-Piping Engineers
10-Instrumentation Engineers
5-Mechanical Engineers (RE)
5-Mechanical Team Leaders
5-Mechanical Foreman (RE)
5-Mechanical Foreman (Workshop)
5 - Instrumentation Supervisors
20-Mechanical Fitters
20-Instrument Technicians
5- Mechanical Helpers (RE)
15-Mechanical Helpers (Wkshp)
5 Industrial Electrician (Power/Dist.)
5 Warehousemen

INTERESTED CANDIDATES SHOULD HAVE NO LESS THAN FIVE (5) YEARS EXPERIENCE IN OIL & GAS-Petrochemical companies/refineries.

Manpower Pooling Only

PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL REQUIREMENTS

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> Project Director
> Project Manager
> Project Engineer
> Project Control Manager
> Project Control Engineer
> Scheduler
> Cost Estimator
> Quanlity Surveyor
> QA Manager
> QA Engineer/Specialist
> HSE Manager
> HSE Engineer/Specialist
> Accountant
> Office Administrative/Executive
> Turnaround Manager
> Preparation Engineer
> Turnaround Planner

ENGINEERING:
> Engineering Manager
> Process Engineer (Process /Utility/Off-sites/Tech. Safety & Environment
> Mechanical Engineer
> (Rotating/Static/Piping
> Civil Engineer (Civil/Structural)
> Electrical Engineer (Power/System/Package
> Instrument Engineer (Field/ System/Scada/Telecom
> Pipeline Engineer (Onshore
> Engineering Designers
> Engineering Draftsman /Drafters

OIL DRILLING DIVISION
> Drilling Superintendent
> Sr. Drilling Supervisor
> Night Drilling Supervisor
> Sr. Drilling Engineer
> Sr. Fluid Engineer
> Pump Men
> Jacking Technician
> Slick-line Supervisor
> Well Technicians
> Shutdown Planning Engineer
> Shutdown Administrator
> Drillers
> Assistant Drillers
> Commissioning Manager
> Commissioning Specialist – RE/ Static/Pipeline/Elect./Inst.
> Start Up Specialist
> Slick-line Operator
> Slick-line Assistants
> Well Site Geologist
> Shutdown Technicians
> Rig Crane Operators Offshore

Construction:
> Construction Manager
> Construction Superintendent (Civil/Mech./Elect./Inst./Scada/Comm
> Welding/NDT Inspector / Supervisor
> Civil Inspector / Supervisor
> Mech./Piping Inspector/ Supervisor
> E & I Inspector / Supervisor
> Pipeline Inspector / Supervisor
> QA/QC Inspector / Supervisor
> Construction Engineer
> Rigger
> Scaffolder
> Safety Advisor/Officer
> X-Ray Auditor
> Surveyor

Submit 3 sets of Resume with pictures, Certificate of Employment, Copy of Passport, NBI & Diskette in MS Word Resume File personally to address abovementioned, or email it to matrixconsultants@itworksservices.net

BEWARE OF ILLEGAL RECRUITERS * NO FEES TO BE COLLECTED

Lafayette (Philippines), Inc. is seeking a suitably qualified and experienced person for its Makati-based position of:

ACCOUNTANT

The successful candidate will be holding a professional staff position and will be responsible for the day-to-day accounting services in accordance with company policies and procedures.

Job Requirement:

- Holder of a bachelor's degree in Accounting. CPA is a must.
- At least three (3) years of relevant experience in all facets of general accounting.
- Capable of working with minimum supervision and maintain composure under pressure.
- Proficiency in oral and written English.
- Computer literate preferably with experience in computerized accounting systems.

Qualified candidates may send comprehensive resume' with recent passport size picture before 28 January 2005 to:

The Finance Manager
Lafayette (Philippines), Inc.
S21 Legaspi Suites, 178 Salcedo Street
Legaspi Village, Makati City

IMMEDIATE HIRING

IN MAKATI OFFICE

PHIL. AXA LIFE CENTRE
Suite 2104 21st Flr.
Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City
(Beside Makati Post Office)

TO OCCUPY VARIOUS POSITIONS IN THE COMPANY

IF YOU ARE:

- ✓ College graduates of at least 4 year course from reputable schools and universities
- ✓ Energetic men and women of at least 20 years old and above
- ✓ Individuals who have a good command of English or Chinese Language
- ✓ With or Without Work Experience
- ✓ Willing to start immediately (not presently employed or enrolled)

THEN YOU DESERVE:

- ✓ A STARTING PAY OF ABOVE AVERAGE INCOME
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See us in your PROPER BUSINESS ATTIRE with 2 pcs. (2x2) Passport sized pictures, complete resumé, clipping of this ad and valid ID from Monday - Wednesday (January 24 to January 26, 2005) from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Present another ID to gain entrance in the building

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SERVICE ENGINEERS

Qualifications:

- Male, 25 to 28 years old
- Graduate of Electrical/Electronics Engineering course
- Preferably with experience in servicing electromechanical equipments
- Good oral and written communication skills
- With good moral character
- Preferably residing in Baguio
- To be assigned in Baguio City

Please send resumé at:

Servcom, Inc.
2nd Flr., Jaguar Service Ctr., 3904 Quingua St.,
Brgy. Pinagkaisahan, Makati City
Or e-mail at: servcom_inc@yahoo.com

NURSES FOR NEW ZEALAND

Reliable Recruitment Corporation
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Urgently needs 100 Registered Nurses to work in NEW ZEALAND. At least 2 years solid working experience in a Hospital.

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PASSERS OF IELTS (ACADEMIC) RESULT, SPEAKING & WRITING, 7.0 AND WITH OVERALL BAND OF 7.0 OR ABOVE IS AN ADVANTAGE***

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Please submit detailed resumé to:

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Tel. No. 5222128 / 5261310 / 5251935
Fax No. 5216119
E-mail: relcor@skyinet.net

Interview conducted DAILY

MAG-INGAT SA ILLEGAL RECRUITER

MICROCADD
TECHNOLOGIES
Store Supervisors

- Graduate of Business Management or other related courses
- Male / Female, atleast 23 years old
- Experience is an advantage but not required
- Preferably with knowledge in CAD

All qualified applicants please send resume

4/F [illegible] Bldg., [illegible] Ave., Araneta Center, Cubao, Quezon City (beside Farmers)

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRE-SPED TUTOR
Male, 27-37 y/o, for Homebased program of 12 y/o aut boy, Beh Sci Grad. w/teaching exp, likes baking/cooking, sports, Wt. 140 lbs.+, Ht. 5'4"+, Can work on wknds,
Bring Refs, cv, foto, NBI/pol clrns, etc.
Call8133824 Telefax7280435
Text 0917-623-9977 for appt.

ACCOUNTING CLERK

– Female, 30-40 years old
– able to work under pressure
– preferably with experience
– knowledge in human resources

Apply & bring resumé with 2x2 picture at 849 N.S. Amoranto St., cor. G. Araneta Ave., Quezon City.

Media Whiz Inc.
#36 Tomas Morato Ave., Q.C.

GRAPHIC ARTISTS

- Highly Creative
- Expert on Corel Draw, Adobe Photoshop & Pagemaker
- Priority to those with previous experience in large format printing & image setting
- Can work long hours with minimal supervision

MARKETING REPRESENTATIVE

- Priority to those with previous experience or with advertising background

CUSTOMER SERVICE STAFF

- With previous experience
- Good communication skills & Computer literate

Email your CV at:
medlawhizinc@aol.com
or Fax at 7210059

AVAYA PBX ENGINEER

With salary of P130,000 – P250,000 per annum

- Male, 23-30 Years old
- Knowledgeable in Avaya PBX Systems
- Graduate of ECE an advantage
- Willing to work Nights and Weekends
- Outgoing Personality
- Must have the ability to multi-task

ACCOUNT MANAGER

With salary of P130,000 – P250,000 per annum

- Preferably a graduate of UP, Ateneo or La Salle
- Must have at least one year experience in the field of sales and marketing
- Basic computer knowledge
- Good oral and written communication skills
- Must have flexible working hours

HR OFFICER

With salary of P130,000 – P250,000 per annum

- Must have at least one year experience in the field of HR preferably in a call center
- Must have depth experience in management coaching, organization development and organization effectiveness areas
- Must possess strong leadership skills
- Willing to work shifts (night/day or weekend)

OUTBOUND SALES AGENTS

With salary of P120,000 – P260,000 per annum

- Must have excellent Tagalog-English (Taglish) conversational skills
- Must have completed at least 2nd year college
- 18 to 27 years old, with outgoing personality
- Willing to work shifts (night/day or weekend)
- Basic computer knowledge
- Internet savvy

Lapanday center, 2263 Pasong Tamo Ext., Makati City
Taking the MRT, get off at Magallanes Station and go towards Mantrade
(5th bldg. from EDSA) or SEND your resumes with ID picture to: hr@nytelecon.com
or MAIL TO: P.O. Box 892 Dasmariñas Village, Makati

GLOBAL 9, INC.

WANTED IMMEDIATELY

PROJECT COORDINATOR

ENGLISH LANGUAGE EDUCATION IN MINDANAO

An international educational media and training organization has an immediate need for a **PROJECT COORDINATOR** to coordinate and actively implement English language instruction and enrichment programs. The project will serve various populations all over Mindanao through audio, print and face-to-face teacher and radio broadcaster training. Project beneficiaries will be students in elementary and high schools, their teachers and families, teachers in formal training programs, older students of English, and general radio audiences. **He/She will** work in decentralized team assisting the Project Manager while also working very independently to assure that schools and communities are using the materials effectively. He/She will monitor all activities and identify ways the project can improve services; seek opportunities to extend services to new communities; manage materials production and distribution; procure supplies; coordinate and assist trainings of teachers and broadcasters; liaise with educational and broadcast partner institutions in Cotabato, Zamboanga, Manila and elsewhere; identify problems and issues and propose solutions; prepare status reports; manage and track expenditures; and do other specified tasks. **Minimum requirements are**: a bachelor's degree in a relevant field such as education, development communications, public or business administration; (one or more years of graduate studies is desirable, masters degree preferred); at least 4 years of progressive responsibility in project or related management in the field of education; ability to develop and maintain a wide range of contacts with educational and other government officials; excellent organizational, interpersonal and communication (oral and written) skills; computer literate. Must have extensive knowledge (possibly resident) of the cultures of Mindanao (esp. ARMM, Region 12 and Region 9). English language teaching experience is a major plus. Competitive salary (including year-end bonuses).

Interested persons should send their application letter and comprehensive resumé not later than **January 28, 2005**. Mail should be sent to:

RWP Human Resources
c/o SEAMEO INNOTECH Regional Center
P.O. Box 207, University of the Philippines,
Diliman, Quezon City 1101, Philippines
It is greatly preferred and appreciated if candidates send duplicate email to:
sleigh64@aol.com

Bayer CropScience

BAYER

Our Marketing Group is in need of:

CROP SPECIALISTS

(Luzon and Mindanao)

All applicants should have the following qualifications:

Education and Experience:

- ✓ BS Agriculture Graduate (new graduates are welcome)
- ✓ Or Graduate of Agri-related or Non-Agriculture courses but with at least 3 years experience in Sales and/or Promotions in the Crop Protection Industry

Skills:

- ✓ Basic Knowledge in Crop Protection
- ✓ Good Leadership Skills
- ✓ Good Planning and Organizing Skills
- ✓ Effective Presentation and Communication Skills
- ✓ Computer Literate

Other Qualifications:

- ✓ Male, willing to be based anywhere in the Philippines
- ✓ Can drive four-wheel vehicle, with Driver's license
- ✓ Should be willing to undergo one-month training/screening process (final employment status to be decided upon after training period)
- ✓ In good health

ONLY QUALIFIED APPLICANTS WILL BE CONSIDERED.
Qualified applicants may submit their comprehensive resumé with 2x2 photo not later than January 31, 2005 at the following address:

Bayer CropScience, Inc.
c/o Ms. Cris Malabanan
Human Resource Department
3rd Floor, Bayer House
Canlubang Industrial Estate
Calamba City, Laguna 4028
or Email cv at cristina.malabanan@bayercropscience.com

DISTRIBUTOR OF CHOCOLATE, BAKING & CONFECTIONARY INGREDIENTS

IS IN NEED OF:

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

- Male, between 24 to 29 years old
- College graduate
- Height communication skills
- Preferably Marketing or Com Arts graduate
- Experience in selling is an advantage
- Salary plus commission
- Opportunity to train abroad (Singapore & France)
- Willing to cover provincial accounts
- Preferably can speak Visaya

WAREHOUSE CHECKER

- Male, 29-34 years old
- At least 2 years experience in warehouse supervision

Please bring Transcript of Records, ID and Resumé. Apply at:

Sonlie International, Inc.
2652 Taft Avenue, Pasay City
Tel. No. 831-5917

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AUTOMATED TECHNOLOGY (PHIL.), INC.
an INFINITI SOLUTIONS COMPANY
Infiniti Solutions

Automated Technology (Phil.) Inc., a global semiconductor company based in Cabuyao, Laguna, needs topnotch professionals with appropriate semicon experience to fill the requirements of our growing organization.

CENTRAL TEST OPERATIONS MANAGERS

- Graduate of any Engineering course
- With at least 3 yrs. recent experience in managing a semiconductor test manufacturing operations.
- Good knowledge of various semiconductor testers/handlers equipment configurations & capability.
- Familiar with quality and test equipment total productive maintenance programs.
- Preferably with product engineering background.

DEVELOPMENT/PROCESS ENGINEERS

- Preferably BSME, BSEE, BSECE graduate.
- With at least 3 yrs. experience in FOL/EOL operations in package and process development of PDIP/SOIC/SOT or COB/SMT, Multichip/Hybrids or Saw Filter assembly and process; Proficiency in APQP/PRAP, SPC, FMEA, DOE, 8D, QCP. PSM.

TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT ENGINEERS

- Graduate of any Engineering course
- With at least 4 yrs. experience in semicon; knowledgeable in FOL (Ball Attach/Reflow/Clean & Tape & Reel)/ EOL (Trim For Singulation/PackagesSawing/TrayLoading/Scanning/Packaging/ FVI). Proficient in Failure Analysis, FMEA, DOE and SPC Analysis.

DESIGN ENGINEERS

- Graduate of any Engineering course.
- Knowledgeable in designing/drawing of lead frame or substrate in accordance to die design and JEDEC requirement; also in reviewing customer design requirement and translate company standard.
- Preferably with semicon experience as Design Engineer; Autocad expert.

TECHNICAL TRAINING ENGINEERS

- Graduate of any Engineering course.
- With at least 3 yrs. experience in conducting technical training (i.e. SPC/DOE/PSM/FMEA etc. or quality functions in a semicon company
- Proficient presentation skills; oral and written communications.

WIREBOND ENGINEERS

- Graduate of any Engineering course.
- With at least 4 yrs. experience in process engineering and maintenance.
- Must be knowledgeable in SPC, FMEA, DOE and Problem-Solving Methodology.

F/L MAINTENANCE TECHNICIANS

- Graduate of Electronics Technology
- With at least 2-3 yrs. experience in FOL;Good exposure on Saw, Die Attach, Wirebond machines.

B/E MAINTENACE TECHNICIANS

- Graduate of Electronics Technology.
- With at least 2-3 yrs. experience in B/E Station, Mold, DTFS, Mark (ink/ laser);Knowledgeable in ASM Automold is an advantage.

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- Must be a board passer/ with professional license.
- Preferably knows how to drive.

Our company offers competitive compensation and benefits. Mail resume' to ATEC-HRD Main Avenue corner Hologram Street LIGHT INDUSTRY & SCIENCE PARK of the PHILIPPINES I (LISPP I), Bo.Diezmo Cabuyao, Laguna or email to *rparadina@atecphil.com* or *ptaguibulos@atecphil.com* and or you may call at (049) 543-0333 loc. 203 look for Rhea Paradina or Phina Franco.

Architectural Firm
needs

3D / CAD Renderer

Must be an Architecture graduate with extensive background in :

- Autocad ADT
- Photoshop CS
- 3D Viz ver. 4 / 3D Max ver. 6
- 3D Animation an advantage

Please send your resume to

1805C West Tower, PSE Centre
Exchange Road, Ortigas, Pasig City
Or fax at 638.5821

Qualified applicants will be scheduled for interview.
Walk-ins will not be entertained.

ACCOUNT MANAGER

- Female, single
- 23-28 y/o, goodlooking & with pleasing personality
- Outgoing, dynamic, willing to work long hours
- 1-2 yrs. experience in Advertising and Public Relations

MEDIA RELATIONS OFFICER

- Male, Single
- 22-30 y/o, goodlooking w/ pleasing personality
- Excellent inter-personal skills
- 2-3 years experience in public relations work
- Driving skills an advantage
- Willing to work long hours

Please email your resume at Irish_irish01@yahoo.com/ dbl@tri-isys.com.

Shakey's

SM CITY MARILAO, BULACAN

RESTAURANT MANAGER/ MANAGEMENT TRAINEES:

- Male or Female preferably not more than 30 years old and with pleasing personality
- College graduate
- At least 2 years experience in the same capacity in a reputable food chain/ restaurant preferred

RESTAURANT STAFF:

- Male or Female 18-24 years old with good oral communication skills and pleasing personality
- At least 2nd year college.

Email your resume with 2x2 colored picture at ryng@shakeyspizza.ph or mail to International Family Food Services, Inc., AFP-RSBS Ind. Park Km.12 East Services Rd., c5 Junction South Super H-way Taguig Metro Manila.

MetroAlliance
Property Management Corp

We are a 100% Filipino-owned professional property management company certified to the international standard, ISO 9001:2000 Quality Management System. We provide a wide range of services to preserve the value of our Client's properties and optimize services to the property owners and occupants. We have job openings for the following positions, for deployment to our projects.

- **PROPERTY MANAGERS**
- **BUILDING ADMINISTRATORS**
- **FACILITIES MANAGERS**
- **BUILDING ENGINEERS**
- **PROJECT ACCOUNTANTS**
- **ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS**
- **MULTI-SKILLED BUILDING TECHNICIANS**
- **A/C TECHNICIANS**
- **MARKETING OFFICER (for Central Office)**

Interested applicants may submit their CV with picture to:
Human Resources & Administration Department
Unit 1603 Cityland 10 Tower 1 HV dela Costa St. Makati City
Email: hr@metroalliance.com.ph
Tel No.: 894-0398. Ask for Anne Karen Siat

SALES MANAGER

We are a start up consumer goods company (food products). We are in need of a sales manager whose primary responsibility is to strengthen and expand the company's dealer network structure. He or she is between 25 to 40 years of age, at least three years experience in sales and/or marketing, possesses great drive and initiative and one who will share our vision of growth. Starting pay is 40K to 50K a month but there will be attractive performance incentives.

If you possess these qualifications, send us your biodata by email (**kimmie1711@yahoo.com**) or by fax no. 848.1179.

GHD
MANAGEMENT
ENGINEERING
ENVIRONMENT

ACCOUNTANTS

GHD is an international consultancy providing leadership in management, engineering and environmental services with a commitment to sustainable development. GHD is currently seeking Accountants for its Manila and other international offices.

Requirements:

- Working knowledge in F/S preparation, account analysis, maintenance of proper books of accounts and subsidiary records, payroll preparation and reporting to government agencies (SEC, BIR, SSS, HDMF and Philhealth)
- Familiarity with accounting system's control;
- Must have a degree in accounting, preferably CPA with minimum 4-7 years experience;
- Experience in audit and knowledge using Great Plains would be an advantage

The applicants must have strong leadership abilities, can work independently and have excellent oral and written English communication skills.

To join us, please log on to our website and submit your application letter and curriculum vitae online.

GHD, 2/F 111 Paseo de Roxas St., Legaspi Village, Makati City

www.ghd.com.au

We will respond to shortlisted candidates only.

HR professional takes care of company, employees needs

By Candy G. Villanueva
Contributor

HR Focus

AT THE START, it was just a job. Like most professionals, Jane Montilla viewed her HR position as a way to earn a living and meet people. Through the years of sacrifices, lessons and missteps, the job slowly transformed into a vocation. Eight years in human resources educated Montilla on the merits of an HR career. Twenty more years in the business taught her to appreciate HR as a vocation. Twenty-eight years of solid HR experience made Montilla a seasoned professional with an unrelenting goal to bring benefits to the employees. Now as director of HR for Teletech, hundreds of employees are taking advantage of Montilla's commitment.

TeleTech Customer Care Management Phils., Inc. is a customer and management solutions and services company that caters to global industry leaders in health care, financial services, communications and media, technology, retail and government just to name a few. Teletech services over two million customers everyday over the phone, Web and e-mail from North America, Europe, Latin America and in the Asia Pacific. In the Manila office, Teletech provides business process management, facilities management and other global services. These services are delivered by a large number of customer service representatives (CRS) that are all under the stewardship and guidance of Jane Montilla.

First step

Handling a global company with a dynamic and talented set of people is not an easy task. It took years of experience for Montilla to become the seasoned, efficient and reliable people manager that she is. As in most significant journeys, her more than two decades of experience in the HR field started with a single tentative step. Her first step was taken in the campus of Ateneo de Manila University where she took up Psychology. It was in Ateneo where she first learned about the mysteries of the human mind.

Intrigued by the intricacies of the human psyche, she took up a job as manpower planner in San Miguel Corporation where she was able to meet and interact with different people. After San Miguel, she moved on to Manuel Elizalde, Jr. and Associates as a consultant. Montilla relished the experience and learned everything she could before she embraced bigger responsibilities. She moved to other companies and was eventually promoted to HR officer. From then on, there was no turning back. "I was doing HR work from the time I graduated from college, but it was only after eight years in the profession that I came to realize that I wanted to pursue HR as a career path," recalls Montilla. Her continuous search for growth brought her to Unisys Philippines as HR director. Her most recent but definitely not her last stop in her unending expedition brought her to TeleTech Customer Care Management Phils., Inc.

Growing the company

As director for HR in Teletech, Montilla manages the overall HR strategy and HR functional areas in the country. The first few months at Teletech were busy months for Montilla. Within 10 short months she was able to develop and implement the benefit structure of the company, implement the Oracle Human Resource Management System, complete all the hiring ramps on time, complete training for all HR and senior hiring managers, finalize the company's policy manual and finalize the compensation structure and career tracks. All these she achieved while handling an HR team of 25 and taking care of over 2,500 employees. Not an easy feat for someone who is also a dedicated wife and mother.

Montilla claims that she owes her managerial success to a combination of things. "Personally I think (an effective HR director is) someone who is focused on the needs of the business and at the same time can empathize with employees, can embrace change and communicate openly and positively, and has the right technical skills."

Teletech's HR director also attributes success to love for the job. She says she appreciates how her position allows her "The opportunity to meet and understand others and the business, and then, partner with them to mutually grow and become successful."

Inspiration and experience

Teletech is currently setting up another site in the country and hopes to fill it up with at least 2,000 employees within the year. This is another challenge for Montilla. Whenever she is faced with a huge task like this, she draws upon her 28 years of experience. "I draw inspiration from my past. Having been through good times and tough ones, I am what I am now—a more understanding and nurturing HR professional. And I look forward to continuous learning," claims Montilla.

Montilla also draws inspiration from her own people. She takes pleasure in seeing people grow whether personally or professionally, which makes her perfect for her job. "I hang on to each day thinking that I can make a difference in a person's life: whether the person is a family member, a friend, a co-employee, or just someone I happen to meet. It feels good to know that I'm needed and I can be of help."

Balancing act

The tricky part in Montilla's position is that not only does she need to take care of the employees' needs, but she also has to make sure that the company's expectations are met. Her ultimate goal is to "help achieve the company's business goals through good management of and service to all employees." How does she please both sides? "The knowledge and understanding I gain about the business and best practices, both legal and otherwise, provide the backbone for decision-making but is not the only basis for a sound HR decision. After I sift through the issues vis-à-vis our laws, company policies, and other relevant data, I harness my skill to look at the soft side by putting myself on the side of the parties involved," answers the HR head.

Whenever she has to make a decision that involves both parties, Montilla always makes sure that the objective of the exercise is clear in her head. According to her, the profile of the recipients must always be taken into account. In the end, it's a balance between practicality and compassion. "Listen to others and have an open mind and heart," she counsels. We hear it often enough but it's a simple equation that has served Montilla well for more than 28 years now.

MONTILLA LITA PUYAT

Other careers in the call ...

From page 9★★

as inculcate sales and customer mindset and orientation. They train trainers and team leaders on sales and customer service. They revisit and audit programs and agents' skills, skill levels and develop appropriate interventions. Requirements for trainers include a degree in Sales and Marketing, communications and languages discipline, at least three years working experience in a call center or in a service-oriented environment with a track record in sales or customer service training. Their training also includes presentation and facilitation skills to make them effective facilitators of learning.

Trainers had been agents or representatives themselves so they know the nature of the work and the challenges being faced constantly and serve as role models. Needless to say, a trainer must have exceptional communication skills, have a people, service and business orientation (Note: these types of orientation were described in my career advice on Dec. 26, 2004), have competencies in designing and facilitating courses and are proficient in training needs assessment and measurement of training.

Information technology. IT is key to the call center business and as such, IT engineers, database administrators, network engineers and programmers are very much needed. In addition to entry level skills and knowledge for the IT entry positions, successful applicants are given appropriate training to enable them to fit the requirements of the position.

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OTHER/P.6★★

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Editor Raul O. Marcelo
Contributing Editor Regina Galang Reyes

Goals make life meaningful

By Dr. Tony Alessandra

THERE'S an old saying: "Most people aim at nothing in life ... and hit it with amazing accuracy." It's a sad commentary about people, but it's true. It is the striving for and the attainment of goals that makes life meaningful. Lewis Carroll stated this point beautifully in "Alice in Wonderland:"

Alice: Mr. Cat, which of these paths shall I take?

Cheshire Cat: Well, my dear, where do you want to go?

Alice: I don't suppose it really matters.

Cheshire Cat: Then, my dear, any path will do!

No matter what kind of traveling you're doing, whether it's through life or across the country by car, if you don't know where you're going, you'll never know if you've arrived. Taking just any road will leave your fulfillment to chance. That's not good enough.

People who have no goals feel emotionally, socially, spiritually, physically, and professionally unbalanced. This can only cause anxiety. People who have goals are respected by their peers; they are taken seriously. Making decisions that affect the direction of your life positively is a sign of strength. Goals create drive and positively affect your personality.

The three-percent solution

Time magazine reported on a national survey several years ago that only three percent of those surveyed had written personal goals; 97 percent of the people had no goals at all or had only thought about them. They had not committed their goals to writing. Interestingly, the three percent who had written goals were found to have accomplished much more than any of the 97 percent.

Stepping stones to greatness

Achievements come from awareness, which starts with evaluating your strengths and weaknesses in the light of your current situation. You then expand your beliefs (assumptions) to accept more goals for yourself. This leads you to set plans and expand your actions to eventually achieve your goals. The model for this process is:

Awareness > Beliefs > Goals > Plans > Actions > Achievements

One step leads to another.

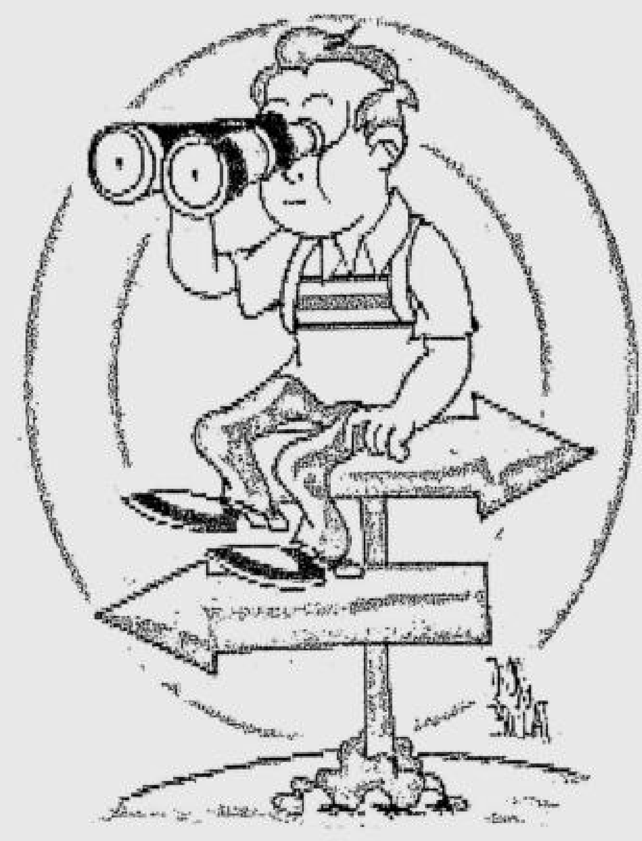


ILLUSTRATION BY DIONISIO BUCCAT

After an achievement, you re-evaluate yourself and find that each new feather in your cap makes you feel capable of accomplishing more and more. Your beliefs (assumptions) then expand, making more goals possible. The effect gains momentum and grows like a snowball rolling downhill. In this way, greatness is achieved through small stepping stones.

Rules of goal-setting

Most people, when asked, "What are your goals in life?" say something like, "To be happy, healthy, and have plenty of money." On the surface this may seem fine. As goals leading to actions, however, they just don't make it. They don't have the key ingredients necessary to make them effective, workable goals.

Your goal must be personal. This means your goals must be uttered with sincerity. It must be something you want to do rather than something you think you should do. Know your reasons for having the goal. Whether you want to achieve something for status, money, or good health is secondary as long as you want it badly enough to work hard for it.

Your goal must be positive. Try not to think of green elephants! You can't do it. It's an automatic response to think of the thing you're told not to think about. This is because the mind cannot not think of something when told to. We tend to focus on ideas and actions from a positive framework. When you think a negative thought such as, "I will not smoke today," your mind perceives it as "I will smoke today." You end up thinking more about smoking than if you phrased it differently. "I will breathe only clean air today" is a statement that serves the same purpose and is more effective.

Your goal must be written. Writing a goal down causes effects that are a bit difficult to explain. It does, nonetheless, prove effective. Written goals take a jump in status from being nebulous thoughts (which you didn't care enough about to bona fide entities on paper. Perhaps their being written serves as a visual reminder and, thus, continually reconfirms their importance. Another possibility is that they can be seen in the statement from the movie, "The Ten Commandments:" "So let it be written, so let it be done." When things are "put in writing," they become official in our minds. A written goal strengthens our commitment to accomplish it.

Your goal must be specific. If you set your goal by saying "I will increase my sales next year," chances are you won't do it. You need to be specific to avoid the lack of commitment that comes with being vague. A more

GOALS/P. 6★★

Other careers in the call center industry

By Josie O. Santamaria

(Continued from last week)

The call center center industry offers many other careers other than the customer service track.

Vertical career paths. If an agent is not inclined to a management path, they can go into other professional paths such as HR specifically in the areas of recruitment or training, or in quality assurance. They are provided the training they need to assume these new roles.

Every Sunday Inquirer issue lists vacancies for technicians, technical support reps, customer service reps, telemarketers, team leaders; employee relations, communications coaches, payroll employees, technical trainers, quality assurance, administration and facilities and various management levels starting from team or shift leader, shift manager, operations manager, all the way to top management. Below are professional career paths in a call center company:

Quality assurance. Quality assurance personnel monitors recorded calls and handling time, how the agent or representative handles the transaction, and evaluates performance of the agent or representative such as average number of calls handled a week. They analyze the call flow i.e., if the agent follows the process and gives the right information during the call, and gives feedback to them. They provide inputs to the team leader for the latter to coach, or provide coaching directly to the representative. The lowest entry level in quality assurance is quality associate. Consistently high performance and leadership potentials can lead to advancement to quality assurance supervisor then manager and to higher levels in management.

ASK YOUR CAREER COUNSELOR

Human resources. This covers recruitment, compensation and benefits, payroll, employee communication and employee relations. Recruitment is tasked to source and attract applicants and from the process used, supply the company with the required qualified manpower in all functional areas. Recruiters must demonstrate their ability to source qualified candidates for vacancies from internal and external sources. Because there is a great hiring demand, recruiters need to be able to work under pressure in an environment of rapid turnover. They use good perceptive and analytical skills to evaluate the suitability of candidates based on the resumés and interviews. They also get training in American English communication and recruitment skills training.

Training. Trainers provide training and constant reinforcement of American culture and American English language, accent neutralization and of specific products. Their work is critical since they provide the first company experience to newly hired agents in their first few weeks with the company. They work closely with Quality Assurance to capture lapses in sales techniques, voice pitch and tone, as well

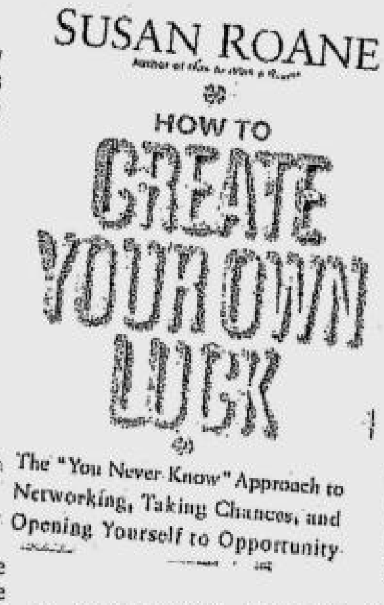
OTHER/P. 8★★

How to create your own luck and keep it, too!

By Regina Galang Reyes

WITH the Chinese New Year just a few weeks away, people are sure to be checking how their signs will fare in the coming Year of the Rooster. Will your sign give you a measure of fame and fortune this year? Or will your sign lead you to a year filled with obstacles and dangers you need to avoid? Yes, many people really depend on the "signs" to determine whether they will get lucky or not this year.

According to Susan RoAne, people don't have to wait for the proper alignment of the planets and stars for good luck to fall on their heads. In her book, "How to Create Your Own Luck" (John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New Jersey, U.S.A., 2004), RoAne prescribes "a 'you-never-know' approach to networking, taking chances and opening yourself to opportunity" that can bring good luck into your lives.


SUSAN ROANE
HOW TO
CREATE
YOUR OWN
LUCK
The "You Never Know" Approach to Networking, Taking Chances, and Opening Yourself to Opportunity

Her premise is that, people who are lucky, most often than not, create their own luck rather than wait for luck to come to their door. These are the people who not only see opportunities but seize them and "parlay it into something positive, which has a measure of success."

According to RoAne, people who create their own luck have some of the following eight traits.

1. **Lucky people talk to strangers.** "Never talk to strangers" was an admonition drilled into the heads of many children. It is no wonder then that even as adults, many people follow this dictum. While it is wise, as a general rule, for one not to talk to strangers since many scam artists may "hypnotize" you into parting with your treasures, there are situations where talking to strangers may, in fact, be a good thing. In social events, for example, it will not do you any good if you just mingle with the people you know. The whole

HOW/P. 6★★

Infanta in the dark

By Teresa R. Tunay, OCDS

READING today's verse instantly evoked images of a lightless Infanta in my mind. I chose to witness a different *hiwalay ng taon* by working through Dec. 31 and January 1. I went to Infanta, Quezon as a volunteer, wanting to empathize with the landslide victims of Winnie and Yoyong and at the same time, to write about their plight. (One great blessing in the kind of work I do is its unique quality of interweaving holidays and work days). Well, on the one particular midnight the Philippine skies usually light up—at *hiwalay ng taon*—Infanta had no light to speak of. Not only were there hardly any fireworks—electricity also had not been restored.

I shared with another female volunteer a very big house with many rooms filled with items salvaged from the flood. In a place where the odor of death clung to the imagination, it felt rather spooky to be moving around by mere candlelight as the wind lashed at the trees and shook our windows and a solitary dog howled outside. But there's something about candlelight that elevates even the most mundane actions—like washing your face or setting up a mosquito net—to the level of a sacred ritual. And so I was up on that mode until dawn, trying to feel what the darkness of disaster could mean to these people who have lost their belongings and beloved.

From what I had seen of the people the day just past, I could say that Infanta has experienced a great light in the darkness, and being "a land overshadowed by death" it will definitely glory in the light now rising. Infanta will confirm what Matthew 4:16 says, because now she knows, beyond doubt, that the sun never rises at noon. (*E-mail the author at* teresa_de_manila @yahoo.com.)

REFLECTIONS FOR THE WORKING SOUL

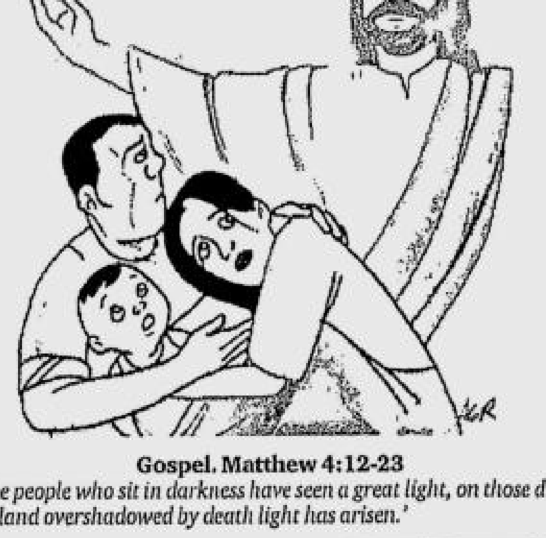


ILLUSTRATION BY ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

Gospel. Matthew 4:12-23

... 'the people who sit in darkness have seen a great light, on those dwelling in a land overshadowed by death light has arisen.'

The light in work

By Bishop Precioso D. Cantillas, SDB, DD

I WAS curious to ask a Ph.D. in Physics (who worked for many years in the research department of a big pharmaceutical company in London) how his work was. He told me that as he began doing a research job, he would feel like being in the dark for years trying to discover unknown fields and making some sense of them, and then time would come when light seemed to shine and the job would become a source of liberating joy and success. Then he went on saying, "Everyone, I think, experiences the same feeling of darkness and light in his job." Reflecting on the verse focus of today's Gospel, I would agree with him that work and the workplace have their "lights and shadows"—good and bad, positive and negative elements, which affect greatly one's sense of fulfillment.

Whether one does complicated research work or just a simple manual job, when the worker fails to discover the sense or meaning of his job, he will somehow be "sitting in darkness" about his work. Or if the workload is simply too much and beyond the capacity of the worker, and the stress and anxiety accompanying such overload are so high and great, chances are the work will literally kill the worker. The workplace would then become like a "land overshadowed by death." What then would save everyone in the workplace?

Greater understanding of one's work and its value in one's life here on earth and hereafter, plus its valuable role in relationship with others and with God, is like a "light" which will reveal the wonderful and liberating meaning of work and the workplace to everyone. (*E-mail the author at* mfvg@skyinet.net.)

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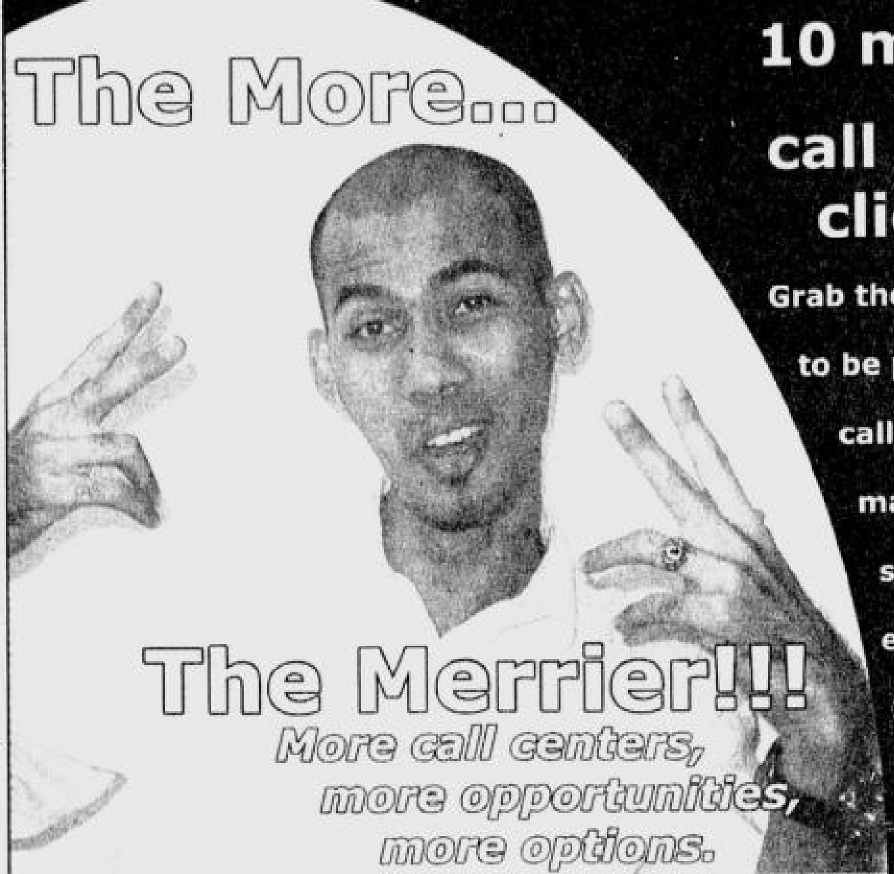
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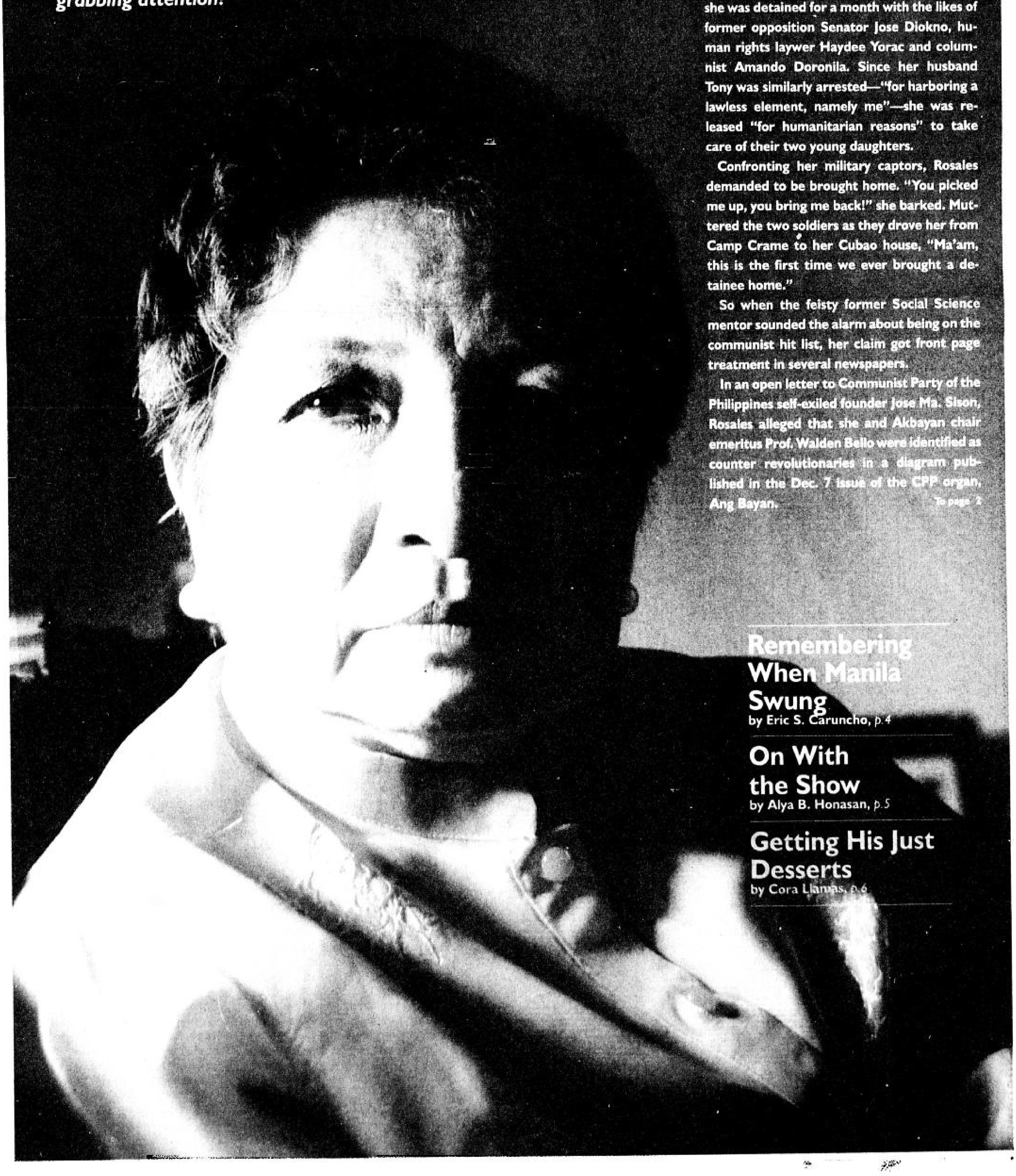
What's Eating Etta?

Akbayan sectoral representative Etta Rosales may have made herself an open target to both the Left and the military with her attacks on her former comrades. Is she just being true to herself as chair of the human rights committee or, as detractors say, simply grabbing attention?



By Pennie Azarcon-dela Cruz
Photograph by Val Handumon

IT takes a lot to intimidate Akbayan party list representative Etta Rosales.

She recalls how, at the onset of martial law, she was detained for a month with the likes of former opposition Senator Jose Diokno, human rights laywer Haydee Yorac and columnist Amando Doronila. Since her husband Tony was similarly arrested—"for harboring a lawless element, namely me"—she was released "for humanitarian reasons" to take care of their two young daughters.

Confronting her military captors, Rosales demanded to be brought home. "You picked me up, you bring me back!" she barked. Muttered the two soldiers as they drove her from Camp Crame to her Cubao house, "Ma'am, this is the first time we ever brought a detainee home."

So when the feisty former Social Science mentor sounded the alarm about being on the communist hit list, her claim got front page treatment in several newspapers.

In an open letter to Communist Party of the Philippines self-exiled founder Jose Ma. Sison, Rosales alleged that she and Akbayan chair emeritus Prof. Walden Bello were identified as counter revolutionaries in a diagram published in the Dec. 7 issue of the CPP organ, Ang Bayan.

To page 2

Remembering When Manila Swung
by Eric S. Caruncho, *p.4*

On With the Show
by Alya B. Honasan, *p.5*

Getting His Just Desserts
by Cora Llamas, *p.6*

Etta

...from page 1

AKBAYAN
NO TO PTC AKBAYAN
NO TO PTC AKBAYAN

The spark that led to a blaze: Rosales and Akbayan Rep. Risa Hontiveros-Baraquel denouncing the NPA's "Permit to Campaign" fees in a press conference

PDI PHOTO

Pointing to the "militarist nature of the Party," the Akbayan official said she and Bello might be eliminated after being described as "enemies of the people." Both Sison and Bayan Muna party list representative Satur Ocampo, who had worked closely with the CPP head as former peace negotiator, denied Rosales's claims.

The open letter, timed to coincide with the 36th anniversary of the Party on Dec. 26, is the latest salvo in the long-simmering antagonism between Left-leaning parties Akbayan and Bayan Muna.

Ocampo says the general animosity "stems basically from ideological and political differences between the leading personalities in both parties, which can be traced to their previous associations prior to the parties' formation."

Student activism

It's been a long association that goes back to the late '60s, when student activism stirred up the political landscape. As a history and political science instructor at the Jose Rizal College, Loretta Ann Rosales found herself drawn to the Left after watching socially-conscious plays by the Kamanyang, Babaylan and PETA theater groups.

Too old to join the Kabataang Makabayan, she was instead recruited to the Humanist League, an organization for young professionals of the National Democratic Movement. "I was turned off by the teach-ins on Philippine Society and Revolution because of all the jargon," she recounts. "But I felt enlightened by the new ideas on nationalism and history."

The shift to the Left was surprising for this daughter of Navy man Rafael Pargas, who later became an attaché to the US. "I wanted to become a WAC (Women's Auxiliary Corps). I think I learned to march before I could even walk," says Rosales, adding that at St. Paul's College, a weapons carrier doubled as their school bus. She was smart but impressionable, admits this elementary school valedictorian. "The nuns at SPC so impressed me I wanted to be one." Alarmed at that prospect, her father transferred her to the University of the Philippines where, as Rosales describes it, "*para akong nakawala sa kural*" (It was like I had been relsesed from a corral).

After graduating with a Foreign Service degree, she was soon writing copy for an appliances account. Marriage did not stop her from taking her MA in Asian Studies and later, Spanish, which she taught at JRC. Fired for leading a teachers' strike, Rosales then became a regular at street rallies and demonstrations and a natural target for arrest when martial law was declared in 1972.

Released after a month, Rosales went underground "on and off" from 1972 to 1976, brushing off her husband's vehement objections. "I told him, let's talk about your problems later. Your job is to take care of the children while I do my political tasks." They have since separated.

But she made one mistake, she confesses. "I went home because I missed my kids and the military picked up my trail." This time, she and five others were tortured in a Pasig safehouse. "My students at JRC turned out to be agents," she says ruefully. "While I was being tortured, they mocked me: '*Buti nga sa 'yo. Nilagpak mo kasi ako!*' (Serves you right for failing me!)" She underwent electric shock, sexual abuse short of rape, the Russian roulette routine and the water cure. Hot candle wax was also poured on her skin. "It's funny sometimes what you remember during moments like that," she recounts, shaking her head. "I was being tortured and I was screaming, 'Ouch!' and my torturer said, '*Akala ko ba makabayan ka? Dapat 'aray!' ang isigaw mo.* (And I thought you were a nationalist.)"

When she was released a month later, Rosales decided to work above ground, refusing the Left's offer to assign her to the Visayas. "I wanted to take care of my little girls Rina and Richie."

She went on to become founding chair of the Alliance of Concerned Teachers (ACT) that led the protest against the Education Act of 1980. ACT, she says, contributed a lot to the passage of the Salary Standardization Law and spearheaded the first nationwide teachers' strike in 1984.

Years before that, in the underground, she had met Joma (Sison). "*Para siyang Diyos* (he was like a god)," Rosales says of her first impression of him. When Sison set up the Partido ng Bayan during the first elections under the Aquino administration, Rosales was offered a senatorial slot. She turned it down. "My political instincts told me I was not ready for it," she says. "If I run, it would be to win, not for mere propaganda purposes."

Cordial

Otherwise, Rosales adds, it was a cordial relationship. "I would go to Utrecht a lot as Bayan president (in the late '80s) and Joe liked me because I was very militant." The crack in her relationship with the underground Left started during the '90s, she says, when the Left started its executions of suspected deep penetration agents. "They even wanted me to be part of the inner sanctum that would decide who'd be executed next, but I refused. *Ayoko!*"

It was when Sison launched his rectification campaign and zeroed in on several personalities as having fomented the discord that led to the Left split between the RJ (Reject) and the RA (Reaffirm) factions. "There were a lot of political differences but these were never discussed nor assessed. We got out but Satur and the others stuck it out," she adds.

In 1998, she helped set up Akbayan, a multisectoral party of workers, farmers, professionals and women, that ran under the party list system and won a seat in the 1998 elections. As sectoral rep, she had to work with people she used to denounce. It was the biggest adjustment she had to make on the job.

The hardest lesson she had to learn, she adds, was that the Old Boys' Network survives and thrives. "When I exposed the payola distributed to House representatives for them to push for the privatization of the National Power Corporation, they ganged up on me. Both the minority and majority came together and left me out to secretly pass the bill on electrification. They punished me for the payola leak by not passing any of my bills."

Now on her third and final term, Rosales says she has realized the limitations of the country's legislative institution. "It's very weak and flawed," she says of the House of Representatives. "You can only do so much so you must be anchored to the ground. You must maintain your links with the people's organizations."

And that's another beef she has with the CPP, she adds. "The Party must allow the people's movement here to have their own dynamics with the *masa* instead of imposing their own theories and ideology that may not reflect the conditions on the ground."

Ocampo takes exception to that. "If that were so, there would have been mass resistance and failure. Precisely, it is the vigor and tenacity with which the people's movement and its mass base put into practice the Party's revolutionary theory and ideology that accouts for the survival, resiliency and advances of the movement over the decades."

Rosales' legislative battles pale in comparison to her intermittent and very public war with her former comrades from the Left. During the 2004 elections, she publicly condemned as extortion the "Permit to Campaign" (PTC) fees being collected from candidates by the New People's Army, the CPP's military arm. Though House Bill 6581 criminalizing the PTC didn't make it through the Senate, she says she will re-file the bill "to safeguard and improve the electoral process."

She has also been roundly scored by Bayan Muna leaders for allegedly taking the same line as the Armed Forces and National Security adviser Norberto Gonzales, who has described as communist fronts several party list groups, including Bayan Muna, Gabriela, Anakpawis, Anak ng Bayan, Migrante and Suara Bangsamoro for their refusal to denounce the armed struggle.

Rosales for her part has accused the NPA of committing electoral fraud: harassing Akbayan's supporters while pressuring local officials to vote for Bayan Muna. They also killed Akbayan barangay captain Boy Ocmen in Agusan for refusing to pay PTC fees, claims Rosales. "They're killing us at the level where we can't fight back because we have no guns," she adds. "We are the enemy because we occupy space that they think belongs to them alone."

He got no confirmation of Etta's claim, says Ocampo. "The allegation that the NPA committed electoral fraud is absurd because the NPA did not participate in the elections," he adds. "If the insinuation is that the three Bayan Muna representatives are NPA candidates, then that is taking the vicious Norberto Gonzales-AFP line."

Another thorny issue that has the leaders of Bayan Muna and Akbayan butting heads is the compensation for victims of human rights violations during the Marcos years. Rosales has batted for the compensation of victims under other administrations, a move that "would absolve the Marcos dictatorship of its direct hand in the massive spate of human rights violations during martial law," charges Bayan Muna Rep. Crispin Beltran.

Compensation bill

House Bill 3315 is seeking $200 million compensation for 9539 victims of martial law abuses, with the money coming out of the $683 million Marcos ill-gotten wealth already recovered by the government and held in escrow at the Philippine National Bank.

Gabriela and Bayan Muna representatives have threatened to block the bill because of what they describe as the exclusion of representatives for the victims in the compensation board that would screen the claimants. The groups want members of SELDA, an organization of Marcos detainees and their families, to be included in the board, which, says Rosales, "would constitute a conflict of interest." The expansion of the bill's coverage, she adds, is consistent with the 1987 Constitution that says the government must provide for all victims of human rights violations. "I'm not saying that the compensation for the other victims must come from the Marcos money; the government must look else-

To page 7

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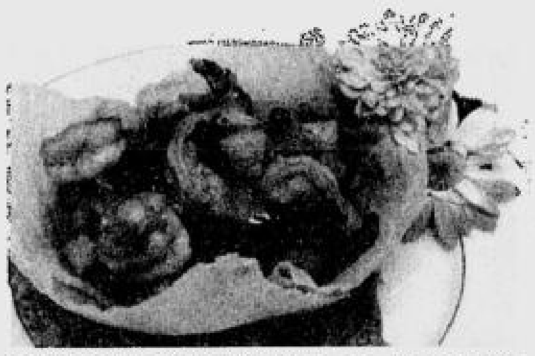


SHANGHAI FOOD SQUARE Experience the Manila Pavilion Hotel's Shanghai Food Square promotion featuring Shanghai's best dishes such as Phat Pow Shrimps, Pan-fried Honey Eel, Stir-fried Noodles Shanghai Style, Deep-fried Shanghai Spring Rolls and more. Available for lunch and dinner at the Pavilion Court until Jan. 30. For inquiries, call 526-1212 ext. 2503. *For more of This Week, see page 7*

The Map of Light

Because you are indifferent, I can offer each morning
only to starlings and not face their ridicule.
They know the map of light is a burden shared
in poverty. They know that every syllable is defiance,
an act of survival.

Mercy looks for moving targets.
Those who have just been born don't know what it's like
to spend an eternity searching. I will let them sleep quietly,
and hope when they wake we'd have left
enough of the world to live in.

And as the hours pass I will speak in codes again.
In the fisted cold. In the warm evenings that weaken
my resolve. So that those who listen
will keep asking, until all our questions
have navigated the earth.

Someone will release the borders from their tyranny.
When I die this body, a cargo of memories,
will disperse and be air. Birds will fly through me,
breathing the words
I no longer remember.

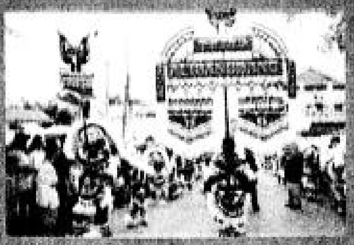
Eric Gamalinda

Viva Kay Sr. Sto. Nino!

Hala bira! Ati-Atihan 2005!

A sea of people at the Plaza Square

The Grand Parade



All smiles for the newly crowned Mutya ng Kalibo

The Sto. Nino lights the way during the Dawn Procession

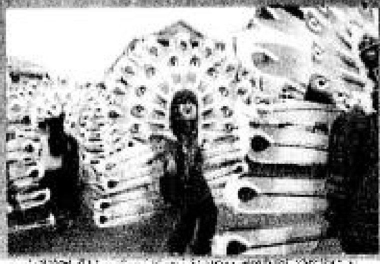
The SMART Buddy FIESTAmazing Fair

Our very own version of Mardi Gras, the Ati-Atihan Festival is world famous for its colorful costumes, charcoal-painted faces, and frenzied street dancing. A celebration in honor of Senor Santo Nino, it is held yearly in Kalibo, Aklan. Here, locals and foreigners come together to make merry in the streets and masquerade around town.

To begin 2005, SMART Buddy gave its all out support to one of the most spectacular fiestas of the year, making it even more FIESTAmazing! For the thousands of visitors who came to see the Ati-Atihan, the Grand Parade was a deserving culmination of the weeklong celebrations. Group after group of local dancers, donned in the most unusual and creative attire, circled the Plaza while gyrating to the drumbeats of ethnic troubadours. At the crack of dawn, devotees swarm to the Kalibo Cathedral, where they give thanks and offer prayers to their beloved Santo Nino. Outside, amidst the sea of people, you see the same image of the baby Jesus bobbing up and down to the beat of the drums. The Santo Nino was all around, as if to remind the fiesta goers what this celebration is all about, a festival that brings together the sacred and celebratory nature of the Filipino.

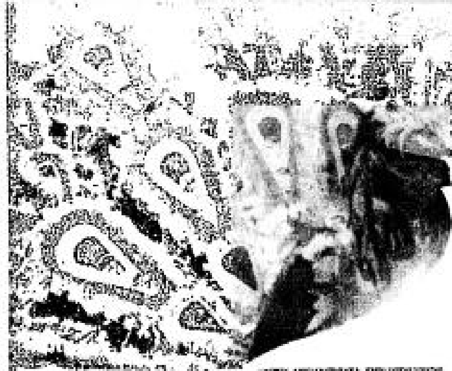
And SMART Buddy was there to make each event even more enjoyable. At the center of the square, the FIESTAmazing Fair offered freebies to subscribers and SIM swappers. Every successful download or SMART Buddy Super SIM & purchase came with your choice of henna tattoo or face painting. There were bigger smiles and much laughter to be shared at the SMART Buddy booths. By nightfall, not far from the square, the Mezzanine Café, Bar & Restaurant became a sanctuary with its good food, cold drinks, and great music, courtesy of your one and only fiesta Buddy.

So, for more fiesta treats, watch out as SMART Buddy travels the country, giving you nothing but the NationWidest coverage.



Painted faces shouting Hala Bi

Cool Grey from Iloilo brings music to the Mezzanine Café



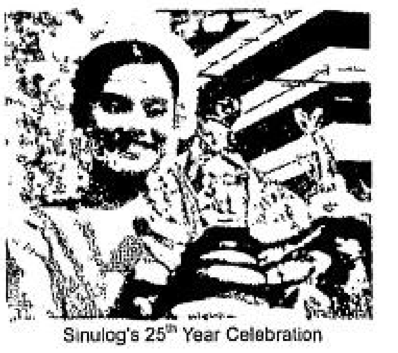
Buddy FIESTAmazing

Sinulog's Silver Year!

Sto. Nino de Cebu in the Fluvial Parade

The Sinulog is the most popular festival of Cebu, attracting tourists from around the country and foreign travelers to its land. This year, the province celebrated the 25th year of Sinulog, a dance ritual performed in honor of the miraculous image of the Santo Nino.

Marking its silver anniversary, Sinulog 2005 was co-presented by SMART Communications Incorporated. With almost a month long of activities, the city was soaked in excitement and anticipation. How can we forget the search for Ms. Cebu Tourism held at the Waterfront Hotel. It was a night of beauty and grace. While the Fluvial Parade brought the Santo Nino de Cebu, riding on a boat abound with flowers to the beginning of the procession, a sight to behold for the hundreds of spectators. But the most-awaited event of the season was the Grand Mardis Gras Parade. A simply exhilarating experience, it featured Higantes and historical floats, which depicted the city's rich past and vibrant present. Street parties were thrown until the wee hours of the morning. And a magnificent fireworks display lit the sky with revelers down below looking up in awe.

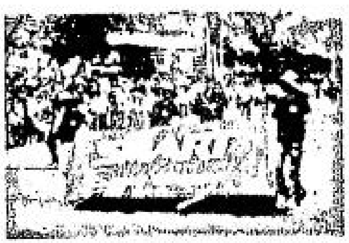


Sinulog's 25th Year Celebration

For the past two decades the Sinulog has been an explosive way to start each year. This 2005 was no different. With SMART Buddy, 2004's most rocking band livened the scene. Bamboo together with MYMP staged a one night only concert in the SM Parking lot, where thousands of fans gathered for a night of music. Adventure enthusiasts also got their share of fun at the SMART Buddy FIESTAmazing Fair. There, a 40-foot wall stood tall, waiting to be conquered.

Expect only the best FIESTAmazing experiences with SMART Buddy!

Buddy FIESTAmazing



SMART co-presents this year's Sinulog Festival

Bamboo live
Thousands of fans
and MYMP

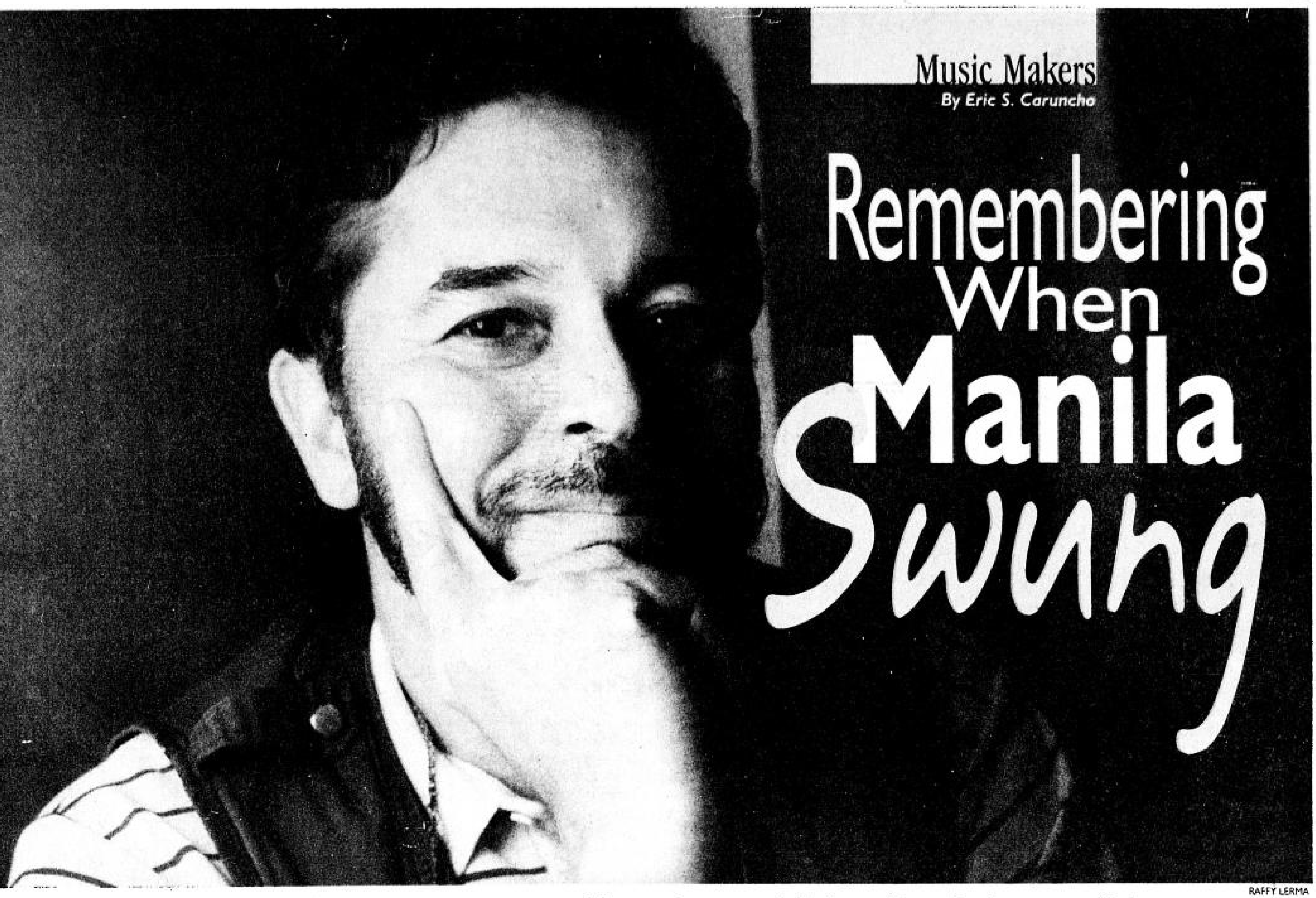
Conquering the 40-foot wall at the SMART Buddy FIESTAmazing Fair

Buddy
pre-paid

Music Makers

By Eric S. Caruncho

Remembering When Manila Swung



RAFFY LERMA

Richie Quirino grew up steeped in music, especially jazz. Now, he has compiled voluminous research on this musical form in the Philippines into an extraordinary book—Part I, that is

Do you remember Dulce Din? Or the Shanghai Swing Masters? What about the Oriental Syncopators? Or Pete Aristorenas and his Symphony of Sweetness? Or Carlos Aguilar and his Rhumbandidos?

And those wild nights at the Santa Ana Cabaret? The Malabon Recreation Hall? The International Ballroom? Or Café Indonesia?

Can you hum the tune of "Ugoy-Ugoy Blues"?

Unless you're an octogenarian hipster, chances are these names mean nothing to you.

But back in their heyday—the roaring '20s to the '50s—these were names to be reckoned with. In the age of cabarets, "vod-a-vil" and the tranvia, jazz was the pop music of the day, heard on the radio, released on platters by labels such as Bataan and Presto Records, and danced to by contemporaneous hepcats and swingers. Eventually, it was supplanted by the popular ballad and rock'n'roll, and its stars faded into memory.

But not oblivion.

In his recently published book "Pinoy Jazz Traditions" (Anvil Publishing), musician and writer Richie C. Quirino offers a fascinating backward glance at this vanished world.

The word "jazz" itself only came into currency after the First World War, the word deriving from "jass"—a euphemism for the sex act. It was a uniquely American art form, and is presumed to have come to these shores with the first Americans after Spain's defeat in the Battle of Manila Bay, in the form of military marching bands (whose members moonlighted as dance bands) and gramophone recordings.

But Quirino speculates that its seeds might have been planted earlier. He cites the recollections of one Artemio Agnes, who served with Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo in 1898:

"Four African-Americans, namely David Fagan, Lester Strongman, Paul Broduck and Waller Colts arrived in Manila as part of a contingent to reinforce America's presence. Racial discrimination was prevalent among whites against blacks and often the latter would be the laughing stock and center of racial inferiority. As a result of these continued insults, the four colored soldiers deserted their ranks and joined Aguinaldo's revolutionary forces as conscripts. They brought with them the customs of African-American music usually performed and sung in funerals when the music was sad before the burial and happy after the funeral. During their leisure time they would sing and expose their Filipino counterparts to the blues and early gospel music that was still taking shape in their motherland."

Blue notes

One can only surmise as to the effects hearing their first blue notes might have had on the more musically-inclined among the revolutionary forces. It certainly confirms the subversive nature of jazz that continues to be part of its appeal.

In any case, by the time the Americans had consolidated their hold on their new colony, jazz was solidly entrenched as part of Manila's popular culture. From that time onwards, the development of Pinoy jazz paralleled the growth of the art form in its motherland.

In the '20s, "vod-a-vil" (vaudeville, or the live variety show) became the dominant form of popular entertainment. Vod-a-vil was the precursor of "Eat Bulaga," and the music was supplied by live dance orchestras. Vod-a-vil gave birth to the first Pinoy jazz stars, such as Katy de la Cruz and Lou Borromeo, the "Philippine King of Jazz."

Within a few years, Filipino bands were playing jazz not only in Manila, but in Shanghai, Hongkong, Singapore and Tokyo and in oceangoing vessels plying the Pacific route. This was the beginning of the diaspora of Filipino musicians which continues to this day.

If the '20s were known as "the Jazz Age," the '30s and '40s were "the Swing era." And just as band leaders Count Basie, Duke Ellington and Benny Goodman were stars in America, Pinoy jazz had its own stars like Pete Aristorenas, Tirso Cruz, the Mesio Regalado Orchestra, the Shanghai Swing Masters and the Mabuhay Band. Not even the outbreak of World War II and the Japanese occupation could put a damper on things: the local Swing era continued well into the postwar years.

In the '50s, the emergence of popular balladeers nudged jazz off its pedestal, but dance bands could still hold their own in nightclubs. The popularity of Latin dance rhythms such as the rhumba and the mambo gave jazz bands a new lease on life. Meanwhile, vocalists such as the sultry half-Indian Dulce Din, Josie Quizon (sister of comedy king Dolphy) and Annie Brazil (mother of Richard Merck) appealed to the jazz aficionados' bluer moods.

Current niche

By this time, however, jazz was no longer the music of the young. The emergence of Elvis Presley, and later the Beatles, signaled the start of the rock'n'roll era. From the '60s onward, jazz was no longer "pop" music per se. The increasing complexity of "modern" jazz made it music for connoisseurs, rather than the mob. In the '70s, "fusion"—an attempt to mix jazz improvisation with rock dynamics and sonic textures—proved to be its last grasp at pop appeal, before settling into its current niche as just one genre among many to choose from.

But largely forgotten though it may be, the story of Pinoy jazz offers us a chance to shed light on hitherto unexplored byways of our past. Being a musician himself, Richie Quirino offers an insider's perspective on what remains a little-known aspect of our cultural history.

Born in 1955, Quirino is the youngest son of writer and historian Carlos Quirino and novelist Liesel Commans Quirino. Like many of his generation, Quirino was weaned on rock 'n' roll. At 13, he started a garage band with a group of friends, playing drums on numbers by Grand Funk Railroad, Jimi Hendrix and other acts considered "heavy" at the time. But hearing jazz for the first time, through a friend's record collection, was a revelation.

"I fell in love with it right away," Quirino recalls on hearing those first albums by Larry Coryell, Gabor Szabo, Frank Zappa and George Benson. "I knew this was the music I wanted to get into. But it was easier said than done."

In his freshman year at college, Quirino formed a band called Destiny with guitarist Gabe Ascalon and bassist Sam Sen. Their big number was "A Taste of Honey," a jazzed-up version of Herb Alpert and the Tijuana Brass's easy-listening hit. Destiny performed the song on Joe Quirino's TV program "Seeing Stars," and Quirino sent a tape of the performance to Howlin' Dave, a disc jockey at DZRJ—then the rock station. To their surprise, it became a hit on the station's "Pinoy Rock and Rhythm" program, which was unusual for an instrumental number, specially one that wasn't really Pinoy rock, per se.

In 1975, Destiny (now with Bob Aves on guitar, Ed Jose on keyboard, Norman Ferrer and later Colby de la Calzada on bass) won the RC Cola Battle of the Bands. Quirino took this as a signal to take music more seriously, so he left his commerce course at De La Salle University and enrolled at the University of the Philippines Conservatory of Music.

During this period, Quirino came to know of his ancestors, jazz elders like Lito Molina and Emil Mijares. "I looked up to them, but I was afraid of them," he recalls. "For me, they were unreachable."

In 1978, after three years of study at the UP Conservatory of Music, Quirino enrolled at the musician's Mecca, Berklee College in Boston, Massachusetts.

"I thought I was already good," he says. "To my shock, I was told to forget everything I had learned and start from zero. My ego was deflated, but it was the right thing to do."Quirino recalls, "Berklee was a total freak-out. It was 24 hours of music, day in and day out."

The discipline paid off, however, and in 1980 he returned home with a double major in Professional Music and Audio Recording. After a stint as a recording engineer at Jose Mari Gonzalez's Cinema Audio, however, Quirino took a long sabbatical away from music, to concentrate on earning a living, first in construction, then a succession of businesses. It wasn't until 1995 that he felt he was financially stable enough to go back to his first love, music.

Quirino immersed himself in the new music scene. He played with guitarist Johnny Alegre, trumpeter Butch Silverio, keyboardist Butch Saulog and bassist Colby de la Calzada in the JR Cobb Jazz Chamber, and with vocalist Binky Lampano in the Lampano Lounge Committee.

But bouts of gout and arthritis made it increasingly painful for Quirino to grip his drumsticks. Finding it easier to play hand drums, he switched to percussion and formed Guarana, a Brazilian jazz outfit that remains his chief gig.

Window to the past

"I love this music," he says. "It feels great, although I don't speak a word of Portuguese."

During this period, Quirino corresponded regularly with other jazz fanatics through the Pinoyjazz e-groups which served as an incubator for "Pinoy Jazz Traditions."

Quirino began his project by trying to interview as many Filipino jazz musicians as possible, starting with the oldest, many of whom were already in their 80s. He posted the interviews on the Internet as he went along.

One of the most detailed and lucid interviews was with jazz pioneer Angel Peña, who had returned to the Philippines after retiring from the Honolulu Symphony.

"I realized that here, with great accuracy, was a window to the past, and I realized that it was possible to write a book," he says.

Quirino's original blueprint was somewhat grandiosely titled "The History of Jazz in the Philippines." As envisioned, it would be a comprehensive look at the music from its beginnings to the present era, with multiple authors. This proved to be an enormous undertaking, however, with hundreds of pages of interviews and research to draw from.

The current volume, "Pinoy Jazz Traditions," is only the first part of what could turn out to be a three-volume work. It covers the American period, beginning with the Fil-American war and ending with independence in 1946.

The bulk of the book is devoted to interviews with some of the pioneers of Pinoy jazz. This is a fortunate circumstance, since a number of Quirino's interviewees have gone on to the great gig in the sky, among them Lito Molina, Fred Robles, Nemesio Regalado, Bert del Rosario and Johnny Gosalves. Their memories form an oral history of a fascinating period in our cultural life about which we know too little.

"This is only a teaser," says Quirino. "I hope other writers will be encouraged to write about Pinoy jazz." ◘

Theater Tales

By Alya B. Honasan

On with the Show

Director Bibot Amador transformed her from a shy, antsy housewife into one of Philippine theater's most respected actresses. Today, Joy Virata is helping keep her dear friend's legacy alive in the theater company they both loved

RYAN LIM

IT'S A week after Repertory Philippines' first press conference for the year 2005—its very first after the death last November 28 of its artistic director and moving force, Zeneida "Bibot" Amador. Yet, at the Pasong Tamo office, it seems like just another day in the life of the 37-year-old theater company that brought international works and professional management to the Philippine theater scene. Associate artistic director and consultant for audience development Joy Virata is thinking of the press preview that evening of "Oh Romeo," the directorial reins of which she had to take over after Amador's death.

"The presscon was okay," Virata says. "But of course, we knew they would be asking—what now? The truthful answer is, Bibot left a very strong company, in terms of talent and resources. We just have to husband the resources really well and nurture the talent. The main focus now is to maintain the quality and standards of the productions."

Amador's long-time partner Baby Barredo has taken over as artistic director and president, but in spite of the titles, Virata assures that Rep remains "informal, with functions loosely assigned. The bulk of the administrative work will fall to me, but the difference"—and Virata smiles wistfully, almost shyly at this point—"is that I no longer have a fallback. I can't go, 'Bibot, can we do this?' The buck stops here. Yes, I am nervous, I will not deny that."

The long years of collaboration will pay off, however. "I've worked with Bibot for so long, we knew each other's ins and outs, what was going on in each other's minds," Virata says. "There were things we didn't agree on, but we did agree on one thing—what was best for Rep. It's impossible to say that things are going to continue the way they were before, because they never did, even when she was around! The situation changes, the economy changes, the state of the art changes. We go with the flow."

One in a million

Another difference between the fiery Amador and Virata, who has a master's degree in Industrial Management from the University of the Philippines, is management style. "Bibot had it all inside, while I have to write everything down—who's going to do what, when. I don't have what she had in terms of natural, practical management. I'm such a 1, 2, 3 person, it will take a little more effort. Well, Bibot was one in a million anyway, you cannot replace her in any form—actor, director, manager, friend."

Virata remembers being "scared stiff" of her friend Amador the first time they met, when Virata auditioned for a role in a Rep play in 1976. "I was at a crossroads in my life—grown kids, busy husband." The play was "How The Other Half Loves" with Chito Ponce Enrile, made even more memorable because Virata broke her arm during the play when she slipped on stage, and she had to wear a coat over her arm the whole time to cover the splint. She finished the run in a cast.

"I had never met her before, and she was so kind to me, I was so shy," Virata says of Amador, who would become her stage mentor. "I guess she could see that. She knew how to treat people, and she treated me carefully—*for a while,*" Virata laughingly emphasizes. "But it was my fault, because I asked her why she didn't yell at me or criticize my acting. I think she was tiptoeing around me, she didn't know what I was like, plus I was Mrs. Government Official and she wasn't sure yet if I was worth her effort." Amador asked if Virata really wanted to be an actress. "I said, 'Yes, I do.' It was no holds barred after that."

In 1977, Virata's mother died, and Amador helped keep her friend busy by assigning her the task of audience development for Rep, making Virata officially part of Repertory management. "We did everything ourselves on my dining table or in Bibot's car. I did all the typing, gathered lists, started with my friends, and that's how our subscription system started."

"I want to be an actress": In Rep's "Rose Tattoo" in 1980

"I need your systematic mind in the office," Amador would tell Virata, "but I don't want it on stage!"

Virata soon got used to working closely with Amador and Barredo behind the scenes, then getting screamed at on stage. "The acting Bibot tried to make me do was a more spontaneous kind. She removed my fences. I was afraid of people, afraid to move." Despite the years of training in the performing arts, Virata found it difficult to relax and get into character, leaving her with—get this—a very real case of stage fright.

Having lived under the shadow of strong people all her life, from her strict parents to her husband Cesar, Virata was not very sociable. "When my husband was in government, I had to keep my opinions to myself even if I had my own ideas, because I had to go to official dinners. But I was completely excluded from his government life, because if people knew they could get me involved in things, it would have been so much harder for him.

Very supportive

"He's a very correct, professional person. So I had to submerge myself during those 20 years." And then she went to Rep, and Amador pushed her to let it all out. "I had to let go of all that baggage if I was going to be a better actress. I guess Bibot knew I could take her pounding."

Virata eventually went through hurdles like dyeing her hair red for "A Chorus Line," or opening the play "Frankie and Johnny in the Claire de Lune" with an onstage orgasm. "Oh, but my husband is very supportive, he watches all the plays, even when I'm not in it!" Virata says of the former Finance Minister and Prime Minister during the Marcos administration who, today, is still a respected banker and vice chairman of the Rizal Commercial Banking Corporation. "Well, it was better to be seen kissing onstage than in the dark somewhere! He told me, 'It's your profession, you do what you need to do, as long as you're not doing anything wrong.'"

The marriage has lasted 48 years, Virata says, "because our basic premise has been there since day one. We have the same values and outlook in life. We both have a sense of humor, we have fun—and maybe it's also because we don't see so much of each other!" The Viratas are parents to Steven Cesar, a project consultant and the only one married; Gillian Joyce, now in Washington after tucking a second master's degree under her belt; and Michael Dean, a doctor living in New Haven, Connecticut.

A passion

Virata is grandmother to four, including 21-year-old Enzo, who lives with his grandparents in Pasig to be nearer school at the Ateneo. "A good boy, except that he's just hooked on theater! Not my fault!" Enzo's grandma exclaims with what seems like a conspiratorial twinkle in her eye. "I actually tried to discourage him because I know how hard it is, but he has the passion. And he's quite good. I watch him all the time."

For Virata, the passion for the theater began as soon as she could play dress-up as a little girl. Born in Manila, she was a sickly child, one of three children of parents who were both teachers at the Philippine Women's University (PWU). Felipe Gamboa was a sociologist, and Doreen Barber Gamboa, an Englishwoman with Irish blood, would later found the Jose Abad Santos Memorial School. Growing up during the war, Virata recalls that they were "very, very poor. All we had to eat was *gabi* (yam)—stems, leaves, morning, noon and night. That's why I can't take *gabi* to this day."

Virata went to PWU first, then began to rebel and insisted on moving to the University of the Philippines in her junior year to study business administration. Here, a brilliant young economist named Cesar Virata became her teacher. "He was a fabulous teacher, and I had such a huge crush on him! I knew something was there when I met him." It was only after she graduated and ended up as Cesar's research assistant that the mentor pursued the sheltered student. "And he was the only suitor I had who wasn't afraid of my father," Virata recalls. When they were married, she was 20 and he was 26.

She had also began working at Procter and Gamble, but she didn't go back to work after her first child was born. Unable to join any other business when Cesar was called to join government and growing "antsy" at home, Virata went back to school to take her masters, while also earning her performance certificate at UP. Virata had studied voice with opera great Isang Tapales for four years and was being egged on by her maestra to try an opera career. She had also acted with the UP Dramatic Club under the late National Artist Wilfrido Ma. Guerrero. Still, the woman was so shy she didn't have the nerve to do her performance recital. "I just didn't have the confidence!"

Own theater

That was a long time ago and, as Virata likes to say, "Bibot succeeded." Like many Rep originals, Virata is now a veteran at multi-tasking, both behind the scenes and onstage at their current home at Rep's Globe Theater in Greenbelt. Ironically, she's actually going to be in more plays this year because there are more roles suited for her. "We would still love to have our own theater," she says of the company's goals. "We thought we were home free at Shangri-La, but see? That's why you never know when things will change. With Ayala now, we want to do things that are mutually advantageous. For the first time, we have a landlord who wants us to succeed! But we know we can't stay here forever. I really don't know, we'll face that problem when we get there. I have no illusions, there will be humps, but we'll get over them. We always have in the past."

Virata is also looking ahead, to the next generation of possible Rep leaders. Any visible heirs and heiresses apparent at the moment? "Put it this way. There are kids who look like they can run the company. I want them to prove that they have more than just ideas, and that they can carry them through. As Bibot always said, it's 50 percent show, 50 percent business. The show is there; there are several generations of talent. It's the business they have to understand more, the real world."

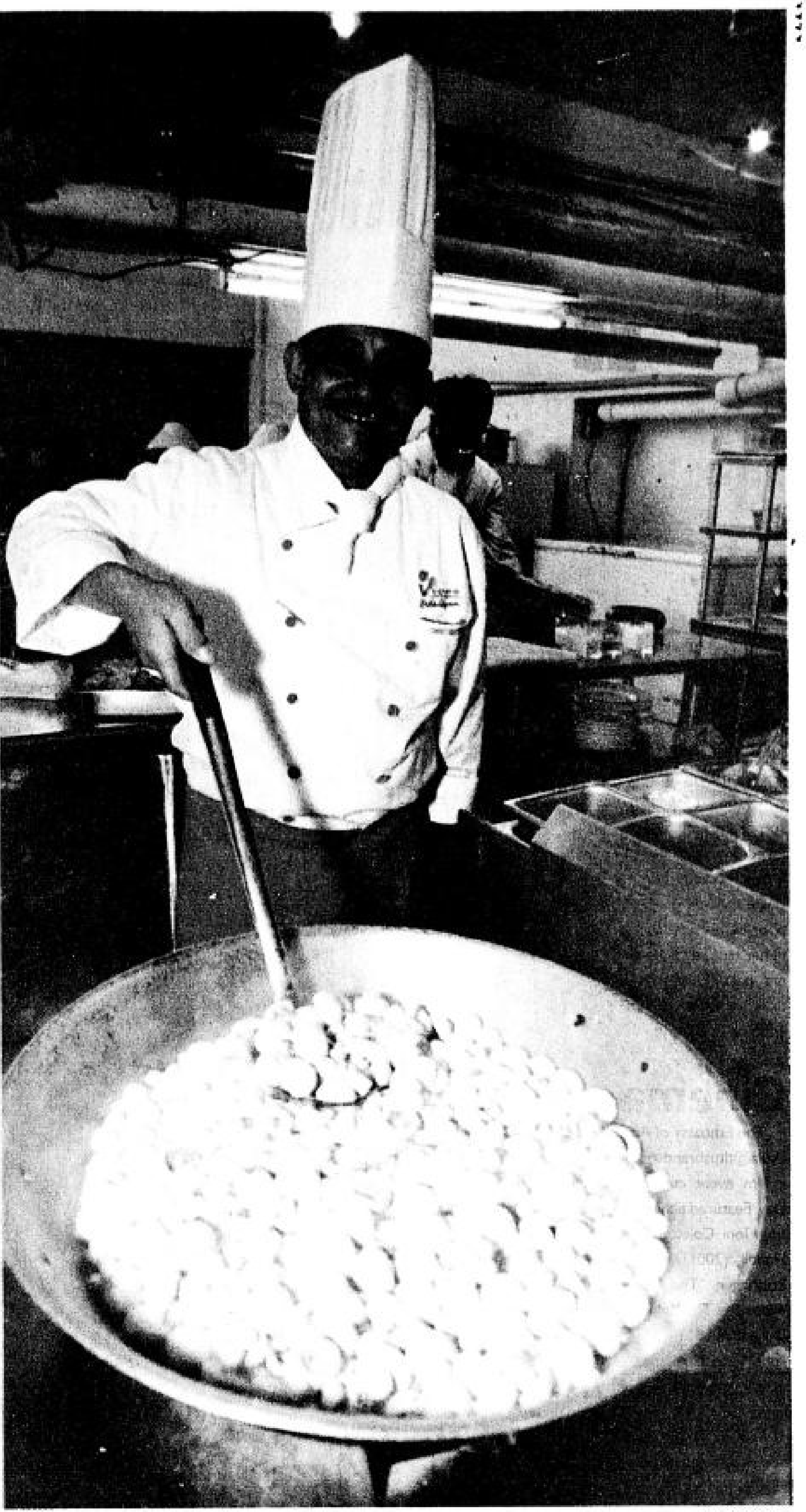
From where Joy Virata is sitting, it's not a question of simple survival: Rep is here to stay. "I know how we have survived, I know what Bibot's decisions have been made of. We know what is there, and what must be done to keep it there. We will continue doing things Bibot's way, as we were all trained by her. When a wheel ain't broke, you don't fix it. You just adjust the spokes a bit." Q

Twists of Fate

By Cora Llamas

Getting His Just Desserts

Chef Pablo Logro started out as a Grade 6 dropout who toiled as a houseboy to recoup what his family lost to a tsunami. Today, after working in a Sultan's palace, he has a farm in Davao, a cushy job as a hotel chef and a life that wants for nothing



RUDY ESPERAS

SHOULD Executive Chef Pablo "Boy" Logro one day fulfill his dream of inspiring the downtrodden as a lay minister, chances are he would be quoting the fifth Beatitude: "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth" (Matthew 5:5).

This culinary master, who once served dishes on the Sultan of Oman's tables for 10 years, embodies that verse. To begin with, he really owns a piece of earth: a 50-hectare farm in Davao where he allows himself the simple life. He has neither been blinded by the glitter of what he's seen at the Sultan's side, nor has Chef Logro been snared in the trap that many overseas Filipino workers have fallen into: years of senseless high living and spending that plummet fast into bankruptcy. His savings remain intact. More importantly, he is helping others build a better life.

"It does seem like a dream," he says in Filipino of his journey from a squatter's hovel to a sultan's palace.

The disarming shyness betrays a glimpse of the modest sixth-grader who once won "The Most Obedient Student Award." Formal education ended at that level. A tidal wave that wiped away his fishing family's meager means in Leyte forced him to work, at 12, as a houseboy in Manila. But another kind of education was about to begin. To this day, Logro has no qualms admitting that he is "no read, no write." Yet he can speak English, Spanish, Japanese, and Arabic fluently.

The secret of his success: "Forget your ego."

At the same time, he admits, "I didn't have any choice then. I didn't have any schooling, any money, I was my only resource." His luck changed when, after a couple of years of polishing his master's staircase, he became a helper in a Chinese restaurant. "There I was in short pants, learning how to cook *siomai, mami, siopao*, and other Chinese dishes."

Another talent—languages—manifested itself three years later when he was 16. This time, as the helper of a true-blue "*habla espanol*" Spanish chef in the Astra Villa restaurant, he started picking up syntax, idioms and phrases even as he was whipping up paella. "The chef was a good man. He liked me and made me his interpreter. He'd tell me in Spanish to tell all the cooks about the next day's catering."

Even as he was making his way in the world, all his earnings were sent to his family in the province. Thanks to the not-so-strict policies of restaurants then, Logro made his place of occupation his home, making a bed out of a row of chairs in the evenings. Later on, with a new bride, he would move to his own small home in the Pasay squatter area.

A few years after management transformed Astra Villa into the more Pinoy-oriented Josephine, he became senior chef but he never stopped learning. The culinary focus had changed from Hispanic to Filipino, and Logro would take time from his busy duties to watch his staff make well-done *inihaw* or mouth-watering *kare-kare*.

Absorbing nuances

To give himself more time to absorb the nuances of learning to prepare anything from pastries to roasted pork, the new boss would report for work two hours early and leave the restaurant two hours after closing time. By that time, he and his wife had moved to more comfortable quarters in Cavite.

All that exercise in hard work and humility landed him a job as the international chef of the Matabungkay Beach Club Hotel in Batangas. With the tourist industry booming in the 1980s, the resort-hotel was always filled with foreign visitors. He started out by helping the chefs under him who knew Japanese and French cuisine.

"I did their errands and sliced the ingredients needed," he recalls. "I didn't mind taking orders from them. If you really want to learn something, you can do it."

The harder struggle came in hobnobbing with the bold and the beautiful. The hotel director advised him to start exercising a more visible profile. At first, the hometown boy found himself grappling with his insecurities.

"Me and my *pilipit na* Visayan English," he looks back now and laughs. When reading dictionaries didn't work—"I'd look at the words and didn't understand a thing!"—his gift for *oido* kicked in. "I watched TV programs and paid close attention to the accents and the intonations. I also spent a lot of time in conversation with our foreign guests."

His last job in Manila prior to his expat experience was as sous chef of the Bayview Hotel in Roxas Boulevard. After some soul-searching, he followed a friend's tip and applied for a chef's po-

To page 7

The Artist Abroad

By Luis H. Francia

New Year's Resolutions

Keeping alive the flicker of hope might seem a futile act, but it is a necessary life raft to hold onto amidst the floodwaters of economic want, insipid and hypocritical political leadership, and spiritual bankruptcy

NEW YORK—Every year the top 10 New Year's resolutions, as noted by researchers, bear out the fact that most of us have fairly mundane, if universal, hopes for self-betterment, whether to spend more time with family and friends or to quit smoking.

In the rankings, the most worldly—enjoy life more—came in at fifth. That the aim of a more pleasurable existence was fifth rather than first is at once surprising and predictable. Surprising as, presumably, the basis of most New Year's resolutions—whether being healthy, or seeing more of our closest and dearest—is to enable a person to extract as much enjoyment as one can from life on this planet. Predictable, since many given to making New Year's pledges would shy away from what would appear to be the slogan of all card-carrying hedonists: the unrelenting and avid pursuit of pleasure.

After all, a New Year's resolution is intended as a mild gesture of ennoblement, a state not usually linked to pleasure. When one, for instance, resolves to spend more time with kin and kaibigan, one is prompted by some guilt for not doing so in the past. Such a resolution acts as a reminder of clan obligations—and a tacit acknowledgement that not doing so has in truth provided one with some enjoyment, though (in his or her mind) hardly a licit one.

"Enjoy life more," on the other hand, implies or even admits no social or moral obligation to anyone, except to one's self, although you could argue that a moral and ethical life, being its own reward, is in fact supremely enjoyable. I doubt however that moral ascendancy is what impels those who, rotund of belly, glass of champagne or single-malt whiskey in hand, aglow in the sybaritic garden of earthly delights, assert this credo, stark and unapologetic, and which will surely be looked upon as selfish at a time of disaster both natural (the tsunami in South and Southeast Asia) and man-made (the war on Iraq). Resolutions, however, unlike political pledges, are individual promises made to one's self and usually do not as a whole affect the world at large.

How did this informal ritual at year's outset begin? What is the link between, on one hand, the exit of the old and the entrance of the new, and, on the other, a hoped-for change in our lives? Celebrating the advent of the new year is likely the oldest of holidays, having been first observed in Babylon 4,000 years ago, the first day most likely coinciding with the arrival of spring. Those Babylonians knew how to party—eating, drinking, and making merry not for one paltry day or two but for 11 days and nights. The inhabitants of that ancient citadel may or may not have made resolutions, but if they did, enjoying life more was surely one of them.

The earliest known practice of drawing up New Year's resolutions began in 153 B.C. when the Romans transformed Janus, the Roman god of beginnings and of doors and entrances, into a symbol of resolutions as well—and, later, into the nominal patron of the first month of the Julian calendar, when January 1 was designated in 46 B.C. as the first day of the solar year (in the lunar calendar of course the date is movable). This deity was two-faced, not in the pejorative sense but because he could see both the past receding (or catching up) and the future approaching. Both seer and historian, Janus reminds us of the need to incorporate these two aspects into the way we live, balancing the habits and lessons learned (if any) from experience with the hopes of a fresh start held out by a new year.

I say this realizing at once how the reverse is true for the survivors and families of victims of the seas' wrath, a WMD that erupted on December 26. What sort of hope does the future hold for the affected subsistence fishermen and all those who barely eked out a living? Now even these minimal modes of earning are gone, if not forever, then certainly for a long time to come. It's a question that should be broadened to apply to all the poor, whether in Manila or Manhattan or the Maldives. Keeping alive the flicker of hope might seem a futile act but it is a necessary life raft to hold onto amidst the floodwaters of economic want, insipid, even hypocritical political leadership, and spiritual bankruptcy, not to mention despair.

The poor, no less than the more fortunate, have every right to "enjoy life more." In their case, "enjoyment" is simply what many of us take for granted: enough food, shelter, and clothing to see them through to the next day, and maybe to dream of peaceful lives and of days when they might be treated as citizens with equal rights and more importantly as brothers and sisters whose poverty won't render them objects of abuse and exploitation.

That resolutions and the hopes they bear are made as Earth completes its orbit around the sun means they are as regular and predictable as that celestial revolution, beginning where they ended, ending where they began. It is a telling, if indirect, metaphor for the plight of the dispossessed, and one hopes against hope that it won't be as telling next year.

This Week

Art

The Alliance Total Gallery showcases another group exhibit, **Over the Volcano III**, featuring artists from the Center of Bikol Art Foundation, Inc. until Feb. 4 at Alliance Francaise de Manille, 209 Nicanor Garcia St., Bel Air II, Makati City.

Music

This Sunday at 5 p.m., the Philippine Women's University Female Ensemble, under the music direction of Celeste Romulo, takes centerstage in **Concert at the Park** in a program titled *"Mula sa Amin, Para sa Inyo!"* at the Rizal Park Open-Air Auditorium. Admission is free.

Onstage

Koiné Theater Foundation's One Acts Theater brings back Niel de Mesa's ***Huling Ensayo Para sa Iyo*** and Wilfrido Ma. Guerrero's ***Call Me Flory*** on Jan. 28, and 29, 7:30 p.m. at the One Acts Theater (2/F, FORAB Bldg., 121 Kamuning Rd., QC). *"Huling Ensayo"* is a one-woman narrative play on a person's tedious birthday surprise preparations for her loved one. "Call Me Flory" is a light comedy about a socialite's name-dropping and poor-berating tendencies until her true self is revealed by her past. For inquiries and ticket reservations, call 410-4485 or (0916) 5251038.

Cebika holds its "Over the Volcano III" exhibit at the Alliance Total Gallery

Cinema

The Embassy of Australia in cooperation with pelikula@titusbrandsma presents **Cinema Australia**, a film event commemorating Australian National Day. Featured films are "Japanese Story" (2003) starring Toni Colette, "He Died with a Felafel in his Hand" (2001) with Noah Taylor and Romane Bohringer, "The Interview" (1998) starring Hugo Weaving, "The Year my Voice Broke" (1987) by John Duigan and Peter Weir''s "The Last Wave" (1977), Jan. 24 to 28 at 7 p.m. at the UP Film Institute. For details, call Beth Reymundo (757-8135) or Jofti Villena (726-6054).

ProGay Philippines and Remedios AIDS Foundation present **Bath House**, a film by indie director Cris Pablo that exposes the heartless scorn that society imposes upon gay people. The film goes on a regular run at the Robinsons Galleria Manila cinema until Jan. 25 and will also go on a nationwide theater tour. For details, call Grupong Sinehan at 436-9348.

Atbp

Tapping the Creative Universe workshop by Jim Paredes will be held on Jan. 24, 26, 28, 31, Feb. 2 and 4 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Rockwell Club in Amorsolo Street, Makati. The workshop is designed to help uncover, identify and set aside the blocks that stand in the way of creativity in everyday life. Fee is P5,000 inclusive of snacks. For reservations, call 426-5375 and 929-0230.

The Communication Foundation for Asia opens to all students and single professionals the **Coffeehouse Environmental Series**, a jamming event for the cause of the environment. The first gathering, "*Usok*: Our Daily Breath" focuses on air pollution and will be held on Jan. 28, 6 to 9 p.m. at the CFA Poolside, 4427 Interior Old Sta. Mesa, Manila. Admission is free. For reservations, call Grace at 714-7233 and 713-2732.

On Jan. 29 from 2 to 4 p.m., the Lopez Memorial Museum will hold a **lecture on Art, Literacy and Children's Creativity** focusing on using the museum as alternative classroom and includes strategies and activities to enhance cultural and historical awareness and art appreciation in children. To be held at the ground floor, Benpres Building, Exchange Road corner Meralco Avenue, Pasig City. For details, call 631-2417.

MB&G/ProActive is holding a **Managing a Catering Business Seminar-Workshop** on Jan. 26 to Feb. 3, from 1 to 5 p.m. at Eastwood City, Libis, Quezon City. The training features lectures and hands-on workshops on legal requirements, planning the menu, equipment and staffing, cost control, room arrangements, among others. For reservations, call 687-178.

The **University of Santo Tomas-Education High School Batch 1980** will have its **reunion** on Jan. 29 at Max's Restaurant, Scout Tuazon, Quezon City, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The reunion will be the start of more exciting activities for the Grand Alumni Homecoming. For details, contact Mike Rabena (0917-3888874), Deng Buco-Opana (0927-9165526), Gie Severino (0917-7927642) or Bernard Bertumen (743-2578, 783-2900).

Hybridigm Consulting and Businessmaker Academy present the **Philippine Biotech Venture Summit: The First Philippine Conference on Biotechnology Enterprise and Investment** to be held on Jan. 26 to 29. The conference aims to educate scientists, entrepreneurs and investors to develop interest in creating as many environment-friendly biotechnology businesses in the country. For details, call 687-4445 and 687-4645.

Starting Your Own Preschool/Child Care Services (Business Orientation) seminar on Jan. 29 and **Basic Video Production workshop** on Jan. 30 will be held at AC-CM Building, 102 Valero St., Salcedo Village, Makati City. For reservations, call 829-5711.

Art Workshops at Ayala Museum: Play Art for Toddlers (Jan. 29, Feb. 5, 12, 19, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.); Drawing with Charcoal and Pastel (Jan. 29, Feb. 5, 12,19, 26, March 5, 12, 19, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.); Introduction to Oil Painting (Feb. 26, March 5, 12, 19, 2 to 5 p.m.); Introduction to Acrylics (Feb. 26, March 5, 12, 19, 2 to 5 p.m.); Introduction to Sculpture (Jan. 29, Feb. 5, 12, 19, 2 to 5 p.m.); Charcoal and Pastel Drawing for Beginners (Jan. 29, Feb. 5, 12, 19, 26, March 5, 12, 19, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.); Basic Chinese Landscape Painting (Jan. 28, Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25, March 4, 11, 18, 6 to 9 p.m.); Intermediate Drawing: Portrait and Figure (Feb. 26, March 5, 12, 19, 26, April 2, 9, 6, 2 to 5 p.m.); Intermediate Jewelry Making (March 10, 17, 24, 31, 2 to 5 p.m.); Basic Mosaic Making (March 19, 26, April 2, 9, 2 to 5 p.m.). Workshop fees are exclusive of materials. For inquiries and registration, call 757-7117 to 21 loc. 29 and 757-3588.

De La Salle-Araneta University, formerly Gregorio Araneta University Foundation, will celebrate its **59th Foundation Anniversary** on Jan. 26-31 with the theme "DLS-AU @ 59: Synergy for Quality." Some of the programs and activities lined up for the anniversary are the Literacy Program for North Cemetery Children, Testimonial and Awards, Wreath Laying, Memorial Lecture, Parade and Review, Alumni Homecoming, Motorcade, Exhibits, Field Demonstration, and Search for Mr. & Mrs. DLS-AU.

Natural Eyesight Workshop. Relearn the correct habits to seeing easily and clearly. Improve your vision the natural way using the Bates Method. Free intro lecture on Jan. 29 at 10 a.m. at Intouch Community Services, 48 McKinley Rd. Makati. For details, call 893-1893 or 0917-4810961.

The **18th CCP Independent Film and Video Competition** will be held on Nov. 22-25 instead of February. The CCP is now calling for entries to the film and video tilt. Deadline is July 29. There will be four categories each for film and video, namely, short feature, experimental, documentary and animation. All entries, which may be in 16mm, 35mm film or VHS, VCD, DVD and mini-DVD for video, must be strictly independent works and not produced for commercial screenings. For details, call 832-1125 loc. 1704 and 1712.

Etta

...from page 2

where for funds, but it must compensate all victims," she stresses.

The infighting among party list groups—natural allies in the world of traditional politics—has definitely weakened their potential as a power bloc, observers say. Why can't Rosales and Ocampo—both reasonable personalities—meet and resolve the issue once and for all?

Says Ocampo: "Both Etta and myself have talked about the differences, but we both know it is beyond the two of us to resolve them altogether." For her part, Rosales says she has come out strongly against the armed Left to maintain the integrity of her work. "As chair of the human rights committee, I must denounce atrocities wherever they're coming from, or I would be less true to myself."

There is no truth, she adds, to talk among some quarters in the Left that she is attacking her former comrades to cover up for her husband's alleged bout with corruption as a Customs official. "It was the Left that had him appointed during Aquino's administration," she says. "The issue was between them, I had nothing to do with it. But I recall my husband once telling me, 'This Party is treating the government like a milking cow.' I guess conflict erupted between them. My only issue with my husband is concubinage. Never in my life did I attack the Left because of my husband. I keep things apart. "

She is as casual about warnings that the military might use her expose of death threats as a convenient way to kill her and pin the blame on the Left. "Anybody who hates me enough can kill me and doesn't have to use this as an excuse," she says. To be sure, she has hired a security guard in her house shortly after she found computer-printed posters tacked outside her home accusing Akbayan of having enriched itself. "But I don't want to attract attention," she says of moving around without a phalanx of security detail. "If they kill me, they kill me."

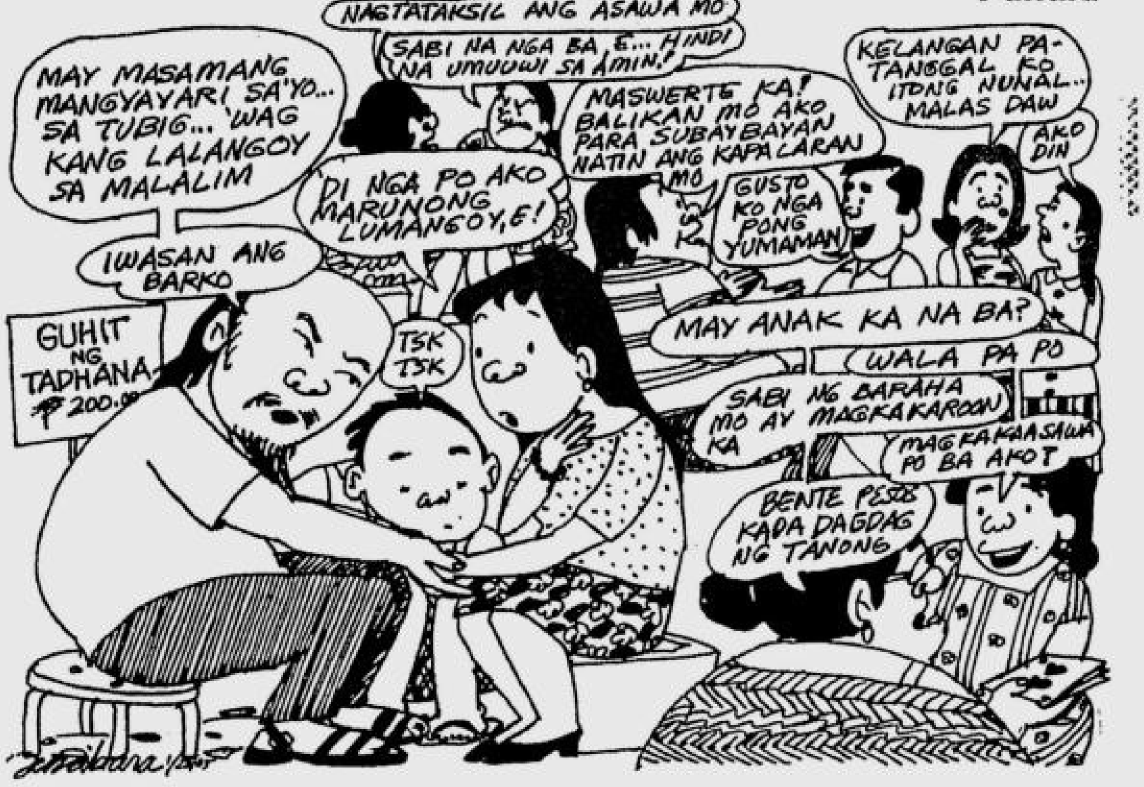
The fireworks are bound to continue even when Rosales leaves politics after her term ends in 2007. She hopes to return to NGO work, she says, "to pursue human rights work in any way I can." Already, she adds, she has left a legacy of human rights bills, including those on reproductive health, the anti-discrimination of lesbians, an anti-death penalty bill, another criminalizing torture, and so on. But retirement from electoral politics should leave her time to relax and watch all those movies she missed. "The last movie I watched was 'Spiderman 2.' I'd like to see *'Panaghoy sa Suba'* and *'Mano Po.'* I love historical films and drama."

Then there are her children and grandchildren. "My biggest regret was not spending more time with my children when they were growing up," says Rosales. "I don't regret being so committed; I just wish I had enjoyed my children more," she adds, revealing a softer side that her fighter's stance has often obscured. Q

Pinoy Nga!

By Jess Abrera

Pahula


MAY MASAMANG MANGYAYARI SA'YO... SA TUBIG... 'WAG KANG LALANGOY SA MALALIM
IWASAN ANG BARKO
NAGTATAKSIL ANG ASAWA MO
SABI NA NGA BA, E... HINDI NA UMUUWI SA AMIN!
DI NGA PO AKO MARUNONG LUMANGOY, E!
MASWERTE KA! BALIKAN MO AKO PARA SUBAYBAYAN NATIN ANG KAPALARAN MO
GUSTO KO NGA PONG YUMAMAN
KELANGAN PATANGGAL KO ITONG NUNAL... MALAS DAW
AKO DIN
GUHIT NG TADHANA ₱200.00
TSK TSK
MAY ANAK KA NA BA?
WALA PA PO
SABI NG BARAHA MO AY MAGKAKAROON KA
MAGKAKAASAWA PO BA AKO?
BENTE PESO KADA DAGDAG NG TANONG

For this week's bands and schedules call:

- Hard Rock Café (893-4662-65)
- Virgin Café : QC (926-7982)
- '70s Bistro: 46 Anonas St., QC (922-0492)
- Hobbit House: 1801 Mabini St., Malate, Manila (521-7604)
- Strumm's: El Pueblo, Ortigas (637-3009)

The SUNDAY INQUIRER MAGAZINE welcomes listings of events in and outside Metro Manila. Please send announcements at least two weeks in advance, and include contact numbers for inquiries on schedules

Getting

...from page 6

sition in the Sultan of Oman's employ. After his first year, he was able to bring his family with him, which had grown to three boys and an only daughter.

The Logros were literally transplanted into a different world, light years away from the squalor and poverty of their early years. "It was as if we had moved to Forbes Park!" His residence was a palatial villa, fully carpeted, furnished, and airconditioned. A government-plated car flying the flag of Oman drove him to work and any other place that he wanted to visit. "I was untouchable, and everybody thought I was a doctor because I always dressed in white!"

With a Sultan for his boss, waiting upon heads of state such as King Hussein of Jordan and President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt was just par for the course. So was suddenly being whisked away in a helicopter, with another nine as escort, bringing pots and pans of food to a mountain resort. "The Sultan always wanted us—his staff—to be with him wherever he went."

Gaining know-how

Soon enough, that meant docking with the royal yacht in ports in London, Istanbul, Spain, Chicago, San Francisco, Denver, and Nebraska. While his Arab friends enjoyed the night life, Logro stocked up on his already formidable cooking know-how by touring the restaurants of the cities they were currently based in. Not minding the astonished waiters, he would order a meal, brush up on the recipe, ask questions, and take camera shots before plunging in his fork and knife. His keen eye also never missed the style and quality of service.

As for the $1,000 travel allowance, Logro kept only a tenth for himself and sent everything to his wife. "Why spend it?" he asks rhetorically. "I had no reason to. I had free accommodations, meals, and the tips that the Sultan would give us. If you don't watch out, you'll waste all that money having a good time all over town."

Frugality was the reason he returned to Manila. His older kids were about to enter college, and studying in the international university in Oman may have been affordable, but it would have cut deeply into his savings. Logro started out again as a demi-chef in the Diamond Hotel, working at a lower position when he could have retired comfortably. "I didn't want my savings diminished," he explains. His gift for languages again served him in good stead, as he became the bridge between the Japanese chef and the Filipino staff.

He was promoted five times in three years until he became executive chef in 1997, the first Filipino to be appointed to such a position. At first, he felt a bit of snobbery from Caucasian colleagues in other hotels, most of whom had studied in the best culinary schools in Europe. But it was only a matter of time before his expertise won him their respect.

Many more people will have a chance to taste Logro's cooking during the Bakery World 2005 Exposition at the World Trade Center from January 26-29. He will be among the 300 bakers showing off their trademark cakes, pastries, confectionaries, chocolate delights, and snacks. Interactive bakery sessions, workshops, and seminars have also been lined up.

He also trains students in his own school, Chef Logro's Institute of Culinary and Kitchen Services. Some graduates have followed in his footsteps, and are now preparing dishes in hotels, resorts, and cruise ships in other countries.

Nothing still beats experience, though. His eldest kid, Richard, 25, who is now the school's chef trainer, started out in the same school of hard knocks. Like any proud father, Logro wanted to see if his son could take up his trade. Unlike other parents, though, he encouraged the boy, a graduate of education and a mean piano player, to do menial work as a helper in the Diamond Hotel.

Up to this day, he never stops reminding him, "*Anak, kahit anong natapos mo, nasa sa iyo kung paano mo i-*upgrade *ang sarili mo* (No matter what your station in life, it's always up to you to upgrade yourself)."

It's the message he has taught successfully to members of his Davao cooperative. The first five families started out by planting *kamoteng kahoy, niyog*, pomelo, *langka*, and other crops. What started out as a P20,000 investment is now earning millions. Aside from diversifying into bananas, copra, and *kamote*, the association has also purchased its own truck and farm equipment, and funded a small gas station for their transport vehicles.

Spiritual gains

The material rewards are considerable, but more so is the spiritual fulfillment, he says. "The families who have worked together have become closer. We've also put up a 350-square-meter church, surrounded by houses in the community like a rosary. And the rosary is prayed there every 4 p.m."

His wife and two younger children have made their home in this Davao haven, while his two older boys help him in his school. The two worlds reflect the balance that the boy who once dined on nothing but tilapia has finally achieved. If he's not grilling his students or supervising the catering at Vivere Suites as its Executive Chef, Logro would be riding a horse or drinking fresh water from the stream in his farm.

"It's still the best life," the Oman Sultan's ex-chef maintains. "In Manila, our standard of living enslaves us. In the farm, I have everything I want. If I want to eat fish, there's the fishpond. Or there are the chicken coops under my house. If I become thirsty, I'd climb a tree and pick a coconut. If I want to get somewhere, I just have to walk. A hundred bucks won't last you in Manila; in the farm, I won't even use it. What else would I need?" Q

Bakery World 2005 will be held at the World Trade Center from January 26-29. Call 929-7993/63, 4269603, and 4364209.

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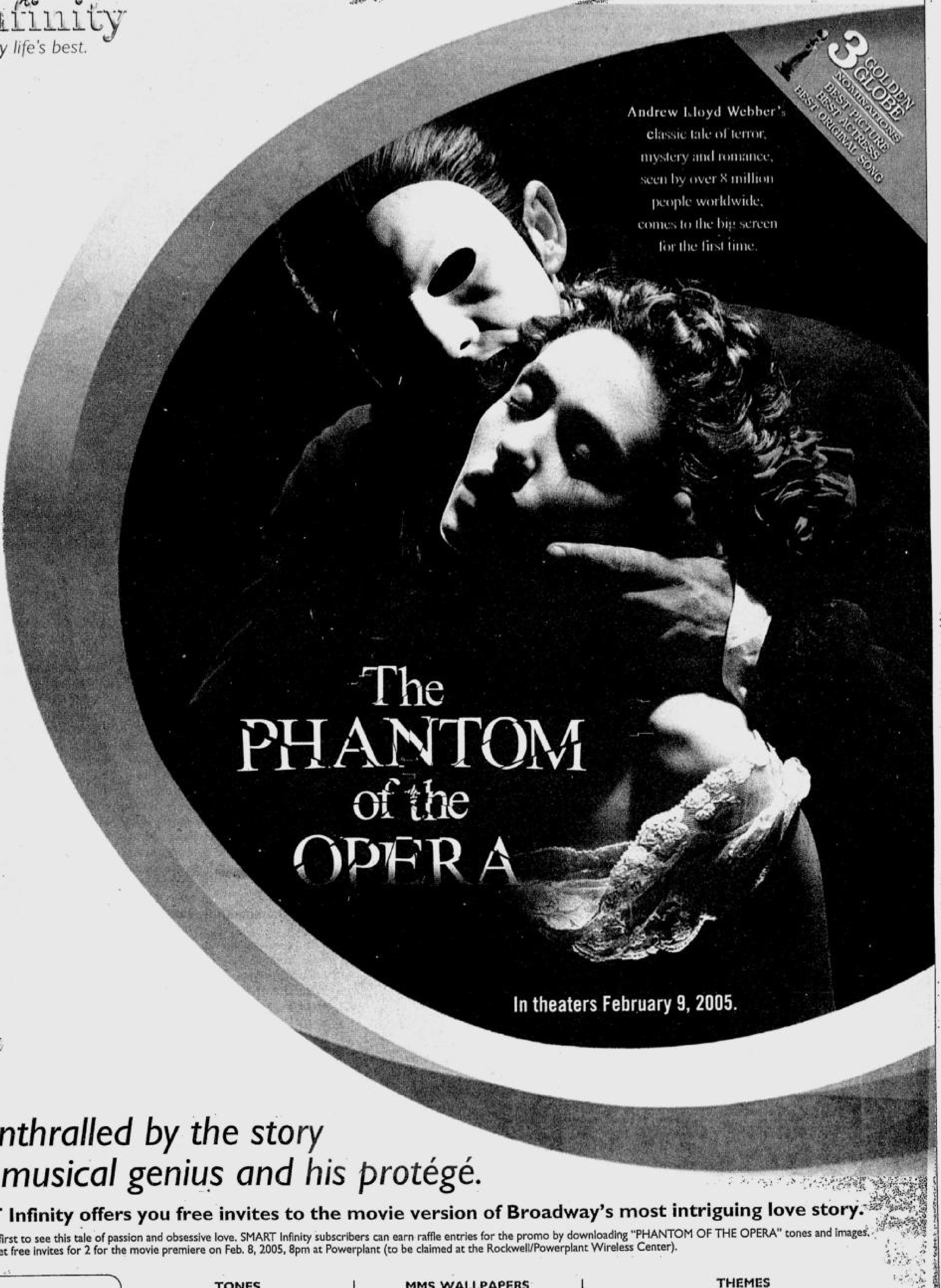
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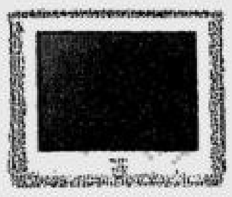

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